#### 'Israeli army to protect Arafat'

PARIS (R) - The secretary of Israel's Labour Party said on Monday Israeli armed forces would protect Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat under a proposed Palestinian self-rule plan, "Security in Israel and the (occupied) territories will be in the hands of the Tsahal (Israeli army). So it's the Israeli army that will protect Yasser Arafat," Nissim Zvilli told Radio J in an interview. Mr. Zvilli said Mr. Arafat was the Palestinians' sole recognised political leader. "If Yasser Arafat feels the need to live in Jericho. I don't see why we should oppose him," he said. The Labour Party secretary said Israel would try to strengthen the hand of Palestinian moderates in the occupied territories to prevent Hamas from taking control.

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AMMAN TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1993, RABIE' AL AWAL 13, 1414

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# Israeli cabinet approves accord with PLO

gathered here Monday for the 11th round of Middle East peace

talks that are expected to render

and the city of Jericho in the West

and a declaration of principles

Washington where Middle East

peace talks resume on Tuesday.

Israeli-Palestinian accord has

long been considered a prere-

quisite for pursuing talks between

Israel and Syria, Lebanon and

The proposed agreement

innounced in Israel and by the

PLO in Tunis calls for the rede-

ployment of the Israeli army, and

for Palestinians to take responsi-

bility for civil administration, not-

be the first tangible result of 22

Middle East peace talks initiated

According to reports from

"dramatic announce-

PLO headquarters in Tunis,

Washington and occupied Jeru-

ably of the police.

by the United States.

ments" were expected.

source said in Tunis.

For the United States, an

Palestinian delegates will dis-

Strip and Jericho.

Bank.

### Labour leader sees possible Palestinian state Negotiators gather in Washington for after 5 years of self-rule in all occupied lands 11th round, 'dramatic' announcements

Combined agency despatches

THE ISRAELI cabinet approved Tuesday a historic agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to grant the Palestinians autonomy starting in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, the prime minister's office announced.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin hopes the accord will be signed by the Palestinians and Israeli delegations at the 11th round of Middle East peace talks that open in Washington Tuesday for two

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Elyakim Rubinstein, chief negotiator with the Palestinians, told Israel Radio the agreement nshrined "fundamental changes" in Israel's positions to date, including readiness to discuss the return to the territories of tens of thousands of refugees from the 1967 war.

The accord was hammered out during secret contacts in Norway between Israeli ministers and officials of the Tunis-based PLO. "Today the horizons towards peace are open," Mr. Rabin told

coalition members. Benjamin Netanyahu, leader the right-wing Likud opposition, accused Mr. Rabin's government of "going behind the back of the nation and setting up a bridgehead of a Palestinian which he argued would

threaten Israel's "security." He called for opponents of the plan to go "in the streets, with all the legitimate means, in order to block these dangers.

Sixteen ministers voted for the plan and two abstained. The approval was the first significant 3 Sum sign of progress since the peace The plan calls for autonomy to begin in Gaza and Jericho within omy in the Gaza Strip, Jericho

Palestinian and Israeli demonstrators march for peace in Jerusulem (AFP photo)

"This is the first agreement that has been reached between Israel and the Palestinian people," said Environmental Protection Minister Yossi Sarid. "All ministers expressed satisfaction over the fact that the security of the state of Israel is being

The secretary-general of Israel's ruling Labour Party said he thought Palestinians would be able to form their own state after a five-year period of autonomy for all the territories now occu-

"I think the choice must be made by the Palestinian people

and all the territories," Nissim Zvilli told the French television station TF1 in an interview.

But Mr. Zvilli said it was not the right time for Israel to consider recognising the PLO as this would spark emotional debate in

"I think we have taken an important step. I am sure it is not necessary to put that problem on the negotiating table now," he

Mr. Zvilli said the Israeli coalition government and his Labour Party were opposed to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

"It's not the right solution. for the Middle East," Mr. Zvilli said, speaking from occupied

It was not clear whether the won autonomy over all the ocu-

The office of Mr. Rabin declined to comment on Mr. Zvilli's remarks and said it would not comment on statements by members of the Knesset, Israel's par-

liament, no matter what their Bassam Abu Sharif, aide to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, was

Jerusalem. But he said the Palestinians should have the

right to such a choice was part of the Palestinian self-rule plan or whether it would be offered the Palestinians only after they had pied territories.

The agreement framework on the general principles of the interim settlement. It and confrontation...

Gang.

Israeli and Arab negotiators to an elected Palestinian authority in all Palestinian occupied territories ... and includes a complete Israeli withdrawa! from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank area of Jericho," the source said.

an agreement giving Palestinians limited self-rule for the Gaza Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi said she hopes The draft agreement calls for mutual recognition by Israel and for a breakthrough in the new the Palestine Liberation Orgaround of talks, and would like to nisation (PLO) and Palestinian see open, direct contacts between self-rule in Israeli-occupied Gaza Israel and the PLO.

"I hope that we will be able to say there is a breakthrough, but we still have some more work to cuss the proposed accord during do on it," Dr. Ashrawi said on two weeks of bilateral talks here arrival in Washington. Asked if there would soon be could be signed this week in

regular contacts between the PLO and Israel, Dr. Ashrawi said, "I hope so. I think what they do behind the scenes and backstage should be done directly Autonomy could be launched

in the Gaza Strip in the next six months and a little later in the Wet Bank town, according to Israeli officials. The stages of the plan, accord-

ing to reports are: - Autonomy in Gaza and

Jericho: - Early empowerment over health, education, employment

If accepted, the so-called 'Gaza-Jericho first' deal would and tourism: Autonomy over the West months of often exasperating Bank:

- Elections in the territories; - Discussions on a permanent settlement in the third year of

In the preamble translated into Hebrew, the word PLO is notably avoided:

"Separate statements are ex-The government of Israel and pected within 24 to 48 hours," a the Palestinian group which represents the Palestinian people agree that the time has come to put an end to decades of conflict

legitimate and political rights of both parties and to act with all their forces for peaceful coexistence, honour and mutual security and...

"To obtain a just and lasting overall peace understanding and historical reconciliation within the framework of the peace pro-

Reactions to the proposed pact have been coming in from interested parties from around the world. US. newspaper editorials have been calling for prudence in pinning hopes on the new plan.

The tough issue remains how to satisfy Palestinian demands to be moving toward eventual statehood and Israeli demands to make any new self-governing sta-tus for Gaza and Jericho a controlled test of a halfway house strategy," the Washington Post

And the Christian Science Monitor cautioned: "If after decades of occupation, and secondclass status, PLO leaders are seen as giving away for free the last dreams of their people, a peace may be shortlived.'

According to reports, an international force would take control of the King Hussein Bridge across the River Jordan under the com-

The Palestinians want to take over the bridge which leads from Jordan to Jericho.

However, this has been rejected by the Israelis who insist they keep their forces there and retain the right to turn back any

'undesirable" Palestinians.
The two sides are considering handing the bridge over to an international force as a way to end the impasse, said the reports.

agreement leaving them under PLO control, the official added. At the same time Israel would end its military administration of the rest of the occupied territor-

General elections would be held in the territorius nine months later, the official said.

A Palestinian police force would take over responsibility for internal security in Gaza and Jericho, while the Israeli army would remain deployed around the two regions.

The Israeli shekel would be dropped and the sole currency become the Jordanian dinar The question of sovereignty

would be left vague and discussed at follow-up talks between the Palestinians and Jordanians, the reports said. Units of the Patestine Libera-

tion Army (PLA) currently stationed in Jordan would be transferred to Jericho, and those in Yemen, Sudan and Egyp: would go to Gaza, where they would be responsible for security after an Israeli pullout, the reports said.

PLO policemen trained in Jordan, Egypt and Sudan will join the PLA fighters to help keep the peace, PLO officials said.

There has been no official Syrian government reaction. But in Damascus, the government-run Tishrin newspaper warned that peace in the region could not be achieved "by installments."

"Partial solutions do not make a solution, nor do they bring about the aspired-for peace in the region," the newspaper asserted. It said Syria opposed the Gaza-

### Arafat on Arab tour to explain proposal

gan a tour of Arab countries to explain a proposed autonomy agreement with Israel that he termed a "historic turning point" for the Palestinians.

ers took th Mr. Arafat flew to Cairo, where his plane refuelled and took off for Sanaa, capital of Yemen, where he will meet leaders there on the eve of the start of the 11th round of U.S.-sponsored prab-Israeli peace talks in Washington.

It was not immediately known where else Mr. Arafat planned to

The interim peace plan calls for the Palestinians to gain autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho in what Mr. Arafat hopes will be a first step toward wider self-rule. Mr. Arafat's plan, which could provide a long-needed break-

through in the stalled Arab-Israeli negotiations, has been opposed by hardline Palestinian e killed sta groups (see separate story). These groups, opposed to the peace talks anyway, assert that Mr. Arafat's plan makes too

januari b ndered loca ne last phir many concessions to Israel without iron-clad guarantees of an eventual independent homeland ave Nate st There has been considerable

opposition as well from within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). But Mr. Arafat, facing turmoil in the movement, secured the about the

backing of the majority of the PLO's ruling 18-man Executive Committee Sunday after an often stormy four-day meeting in Tunis, the movement's headquar-

Jordan, which also is participating in the peace negotiations. has said it was not consulted about the Gaza-Jericho plan. In the Gulf, state-guided news-

papers Monday cautiously welcomed the proposed plan, but warned that it could pose dan-

The oil-rich Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, at off all funds to the PLO in sugust 1990 when Mr. Arafat supported Iraq after it invaded

But the region's governments generally have backed the PLO's

right to represent the Palestinians and supported its decisions. Bahrain's Gulf Daily news

warned that "Gaza and Jericho first" could turn out to mean Gaza and Jericho first and last." It was referring to the fear that the deal could be a trap, luring the Palestinians into an agreement with promises of further concessions that might never be

Saudi Atabia's Englishlanguage Arab News said: "It is a momentous hour by any standard for should progress be made... but the pitfalls are many and obvious. Mr. Arafut met Sunday with

President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia. The PLO chairman told repor-

ters later that "the Palestinians are passing through a historic turning point." The Israeli-Palestinian deal

would reportedly include Israeli recognition of the PLO, while the would recognise Israel. An Arafat aide, speaking on conditin of anonymity, said Sun-

day he expected Israeli recognition to come "very soon." On Monday, Bassam Abu Sharif, a senior Arafut adviser. said in Tunis he expected an Israeli-Palestinian agreement within the next two days, but

stressed it all depended on the

"The ball's in their court and we're expecting their decision." Mr. Abu Sharif said, referring to a planned meeting of the Israeli Cabinet Monday to discuss the

We've already recognised Israel's right to exist," Mr. Abu Sharif said, a reference to a 1988 proclamation by the Palestine National Council.

He did not say where the agreement would be announced

or give any details. In Tunis, hardline Executive Committee member Tayseer Khaled warned that the Palestinians faced "grave consequences" if they signed the agreement. He did not elaborate.

Mr. Khaled, a member of the Damascus-based Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said Syria was opposed to

### Clinton hails breakthrough, cautious on PLO

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bill Chinton on Monday praised an apparent break-through in Middle East peace talks but said it was premature to say whether it would lead the United States to resume its dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"I am very much encouraged by what has happened there and very hopeful," the president said in response to a reporter's question at a photo opportunity.
"The administration has work-

ed hard to facilitate it but ultimately whatever happens will have to be done by the parties themselves," Mr. Clinton said, meeting with advisers in the Roosevelt Room to discuss emergency planning for hurricane Emily, which is approaching the atlantic coast.

Senior Israeli cabinet members and Palestinian officials said Israel is on the verge of recognising the PLO and that both sides could soon agree to start Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho. Asked if the United States

TEL AVIV (Agencies) - Ex-

tremists lobbed a grenade at an

Israeli mi israe's house on Mon-day as a least Jewish group declared war — an agreement for

Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza

Strip and Jericho.

might resume talks with the PLO. Mr. Clinton said, "if there is a new and different landscape in the Middle East, then I might be willing to entertain some ques-

He hastened to add, "I can't answer your question now. It's hypothetical and would only interfere with the discussions now going on. I don't think it's appropriate for the United States even to consider its own position here until the parties have a chance to work out a resolution

Secretary of State Warren

Christopher directed Dennis

Ross, his chief Mideast mediator, and others to try to resolve some of the questions raised by the proposal, which Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres outlined to Mr. Christopher at a secret four-hour meeting on Friday. American officials left little doubt that the prospective agreement is the result of secret meetings that Mr. Peres held with a PLO official in Norway, Foreign Minister Johan Jorgen Holst has confirmed he attended Mr.

Christopher's meeting with Mr.

Peres in California. meetings between Israeli and Palestinian officials that formed

the basis for a Middle East peace proposal, reports from Oslo said. We have had a very important role in the negotiations. Especially since May there has been real progress. Unfortunately, I can't go into deta' vet," Mr. Holst told

From his home in Santa Barbara, California, Mr. Christopher also was on the telephone last week to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa. Mr. Christopher returned to

his office Monday after two weeks in California. Palestinian, Syrian, Jordanian and Lebanese delegations arrived too. Formal Mideast peace talks are due to resume here Tuesday un-

less the probable resignation of the chief Israeli negotiator, Elyakim Rubinstein, causes a brief postponement.

Mr. Rubinstein, who helped shape the 1979 peace treaty be-

tween Israel and Egypt, objects Norway hosted at least 20 to the "concessions" Israel is prepared to make to the PLO.

diplomatic sources said. The Israeli negotiating team arrived Sunday without Mr. Rubinstein. He is a career diplomat and protege of the late Israeli defence and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. Palestinian negotiators sought to have him dismisthe Oslo newspaper Verdens sed when a labour-dominated government replaced the hard fine Likud cabinet.

> The proposal would give the PLO administrative control over Gaza and also the West Bank city of Jericho.

Mr. Christopher's intervennon,the meeting with Mr. Peres and Israel's secret bargaining with the PLO have taken precedence over the formal negotiations at the State Department, though the talks provide a handy mechanism for working on de-

Shimon Sheves, director of the Israeli prime minister's office, is also due here this week for talks with Clinton administration offi-

charged with contacting Israeli groups, was killed in 1983. A PLO spokesman, quoted by the Palestinian news agency

sinated two years later, while Mr.

Sartawi, a close aid to Mr. Arafat

WAFA in Tunis, said the organisation had saved Mr. Jibril from several assassination bids from within his own group.

The PFLP-GC leader was a

group opposes the U.S.sponsored peace talks, warned that the accord on autonomy starting in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank of Jericho would

said the leader of the PFLP-GC. which is close to Syria and Iran. He urged Palestinians in the occupied territories and abroad

The two main components of the PLC\_aside from Arafat's the United S Fatch, th P popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), rebuild the have also rejected the plan.

funds in an attempt to force

PFLP and DFLP officials said ordinary Palestinians would accept Mr. Arafat's plans out of desperation (see story on page

cials said Mr. Arafat in fact had billions of dollars stashed away in banks in Cairo and would use the money to buy political support in the Israeli-occupied territories when and if Israel gives them

movements, has been hard hit by the loss of aid from Gulf states angered by Palestinian symputhy for Iraq during the Gult crisis. Some Palestinian fighters and pensioners have not received their usual payments from the

the world's richest liberation

cials said the loss of Arab aid was a problem rather than a crisis and the PLO had a large income from investments in Atrica, Asia, Latin America and the republics

"PLO investments are not affected. They are generating huge returns, said one. "The investments are either in Arafat's name, or only he and a limited number of his close aides know

the details of them. The United States, they adder. had promised to help the PL receive \$700 million in mye ment aid for the occupied "

Mr. Abu Sha solve the PL "The Pak billion in the

ıC

"We will fight this thing to the end without limits and without rules," warned Noam Federman, spokesman for the anti-Arab Kach movement. "I will not give details, there

this thing. "If the army resists us with sticks we will use sticks but if the army uses guns we will use guns." he threatened. Each was banned from putting up candidate in the

1992 elections because of "racist tendencies." Jewish extremists threw a grenade at the home of Interior Minister Aryeh Deri before dawn Monday, police said. The farright group Dov (Bear), which has links with Kach, claimed responsibility in protest against the abandon of Gaza and Jericho."

The Grenade exploded but did

Settlers, hardliners declare war on autonomy not cause any damage or injurys Police said security would be stepped up at ministers' homes to A couple of dozen settlers

prevent further attacks. Police Minister Moshe Shahal told Israel's military radio station: "The police stand prepared to maintain public order. The full force of the law will be used against those who break it."

He said he had no information on claims from settlers that anarmed vigilante group has been

will be operations to try to stop Health Minister Chaim Ramon issued a warning on state radio to "all those who want to start an insurrection against the elected government." Several hundered Israeli settlers protested outside Prime

Monday.

Some 400 police and border guards protected the prime minister's office against the settlers who carried placards accusing Mr. Rabin of "selling off" the ternitories. The same time a few dozen

Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office

ment held a counterdemonstration on the other side

occupied the only synagogue in

Jericho in protest at the auton-

omy plan. The army ordered the settlers to evacuate the synagogue and declared the town a closed military zone." The military said it had removed a group of 80 settlers who set up a new enclave in the occupied West Bank to protest

against the imminent agreement. The settlers set up the enclave with tents and a generator on Sunday between the Palestinian cities of Hebron and Bethlehem. a military spokeswoman said. "The army evacuated them this

morning," she said. Israel Radio reported that "after a brief period of tension, the settlers left." A spokesman for the protesters

said they would continue with

their action. "We started a struggle, we will finish it," said Bobby Brown, a settler spokesman. "We believe supporters of the peace agree-

this has the potential to spread all over and give the government

quite a headache." About 120,000 Jewish settlers live in fortified settlements among nearly two million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Weizman arges calm

President Ezer Weizman urged Israeli politicians of all colours to remain clam. "I hope that the parties will not

fuel the tension on the eve of vital and historic decisions for the Israelı people," Mr. Weizman told Israeli Television. "One side must not accuse the

other of leading the country into war," he warned after a stormy debate in parliament during which Likud right-wing opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu charged Mr. Rabin with sowing the seeds of the destruction of

Mr. Weizman recalled that it (Continued on page 10)

Palestinian leader Ahmad Jibril threatened Monday to assassinate Palestinians into submission. Yasser Arafat if he accepted the "Gaza-Jericho first" plan for the PLO had exaggerated the autonomy in the Israeli-occupied gravity of a financial crisis so that

territories. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) swiftly hit back, denouncing Mr. Jibril as a mercenary.

"We remind Arafat of the fate of (former Egyptian President) Anwar Sadat and that of Issam Sarrawi," said Mr. Jibril of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

"If he accepts the plot for Gaza and Jericho autonomy, he will pay the price, along with his associates," Mr. Jibril said in a statement. Mr. Sadat signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979 and was assas-

mercenary...who had worked against his own people and re-volution over all the stages of the Palestinian struggle,' the spokesman charged.
Mr. Jibril, whose non-PLO

trigger a civil war in Palestine." It would also serve the "Zionist plan to liquidate the intifada," which has swept the occupied territories since December 1987,

"to rise up and foil this plot."

The two groups said Monday

Jericho deal.

Egypt urged universal Arab

Israeli forces would withdraw approval for the agreement befrom Gaza and Jericho four tween the PLO and Israel.

Jibril threatens to kill Arafat; PLO hits back

In Tunis, Bassam Abu Sharif, a political adviser to Mr. Arafat. dismissed the reports. "These statements have no basis whatsoever. We have a real financial crisis," he said.

But the DFLP and PFLP offi-

autonomy Officials loyal to Mr. Arafut say the organisation, once one of

PLO for up to seven months. The PLO has also cut salaries and is selling off real estate.

But the DFLP and PFLP offi-

of the old Soviet Union.

tories from Japan Europe and Arab

# Palestinian autonomy in months money and politics permitting

By Nicolas B. Tatro The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM - Once Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) can agree on the details, proponents say Palestinian autonomy can be established in the Gaza Strip and Jericho in a matter of months.

But there are substantial obstacles: Both Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO leader Yasser Arafat are politically weak, facing serious challenges from within that may undo any agreement they negotiate.

Also, Palestinians are worried that the experiment in self-rule could collapse unless they get real political power and enough financial aid to convince the residents of the occupied territories that peace

pays.

Perhaps the biggest threat is the assassin's bullet and an outbreak of fighting between Mr. Arafat and Palestinian factions that reject peace negotia-

"I expect if an agreement is reached there will be violence. A expect assassinations by Islamic groups and leftists who reject any compromise with Israel, said Abdul Al Sattar Qassem, a political science lecturer at Bir Zeit University in the occupied West Bank.

Islamic militants in Gaza's Shabura camp told a reporter recently that they expected to

THE TENTATIVE agreement

Sunday between Israel and the

PLO to implement autonomy in

the Gaza Strip and Jericho

bring together two areas united

by Palestinian hopes and di-

vided by violently different

approaches to achieving them.

800,000 Palestinians living in

an area of 362 square

kilometres along the

Mediterranean Sea, is best

known as the December 1987

birthplace of the uprising against Israeli rule in the occu-

pied lands. Most uprising

attacks originate in its

crowded, dusty refugee camps

Crossing into the strip from

Israel is like crossing into a

different time: Fields plowed

by beasts of burden, ancient

cars rattling along poorly

paved roads, powered by little

More than 70 per cent of

Gazans classified are as Palestinian

refugees of Israel's founding in

Jabaliya refugee camp, with

By Terence White

Agence France Presse

Abdul is just over one year old

but he looks like a wizened old

man, with deep-sunken eyes

and a wasted body of tiny

bones wrapped in loose-

Like many Afghan children here, Abdul is suffering from a

complaint health experts call

PEM — protein-energy mal-

nourishment — in his case marasmus, but known to most

Abdul's 20-year-old mother,

who comes from a small village

outside the provincial capital

of Herat in western Afghanis-

tan, thinks she was "14 or

maybe 15" when she got mar-

ried. Abdul is her fourth child.

. She brought Abdul to the

Heart general hospital because

she had heard about the special

people as starvation.

hanging skin.

HERAT, Afghanistan

more than a prayer.

and towns.

The Gaza Strip, with

be fighting with activists from Mr. Arafat's Fatch faction soon after an agreement was

"If Israel leaves, Gaza will become like Lebanon. There will be civil war," said Abu Mohammad, an activist with the Islamic fundamentalist group Hamas, who is wanted by Israelis.

For example, threats recently circulated against Faisal Husseini, the head of the Palestinian negotiating team who is a possible candidate to head the Palestinian selfgoverning authority that will replace Israel's military gov-

If self-rule turns into a battle for dominance in Gaza and Jericho, it could ruin chances for Israeli withdrawal from the rest of the occupied territories and creation of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation.

"If they fail, all Israelis will see the failure as the end of any conceivable attempt to reach agreement with the Palestinians," said Joseph Alpher, head of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Stu-

He said this was why the two sides should allow at least a year to train Palestinian security forces and lay down plans to prevent clashes.

There are also serious questions about the political strength of Mr. Rabin's coalition government, which holds 62 seats in the 120-member

The Shas Party, with six seats, has threatened to pull out if either of two Shas members is forced to step down, as seems likely, from government posts as a result of corruption investigations.

The Shas bond with the leftleaning government is tenuous anyway, and the right-wing Likud bloc's campaign against making deals with the "terrorist" PLO could make inroads.

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu warned Israelis that Mr. Rabin's government was putting the PLO "on the map" with its headquarters only a short car ride from Jerusalem.

"Once we withdraw from the territory, Arabs who want to kill us will rule there, and they will rule in areas that are very close to the coastline and to Jerusalem. They will basically surround us, and they will threaten the country's security and existence," Mr. Netany-

ahu said on Israel army radio. To a great extent the agreement is born of weakness, not

Mr. Rabin's government sees Gaza and Jericho as a no-fuss solution. There are few settlers in either area, and the agreement is crafted to allow Israeli forces to remain in such settlements as there are thus avoiding a traumatic showdown with the 120,000 Jewish settlers and their right-wing supporters.

For the PLO, getting a toehold on Palestinian land is a

symbol step towards the goal of statehood and creates a momentum that could rescue Mr. Arafat from a financial crisis and increasingly strident demands for democratic re-

Sari Nusseibah, a prominent Palestinian adviser to the negotiating team, said Palestinians estimated it would take up to \$12 billion to restore the economic health of the occupied territories after 26 years of occupation.

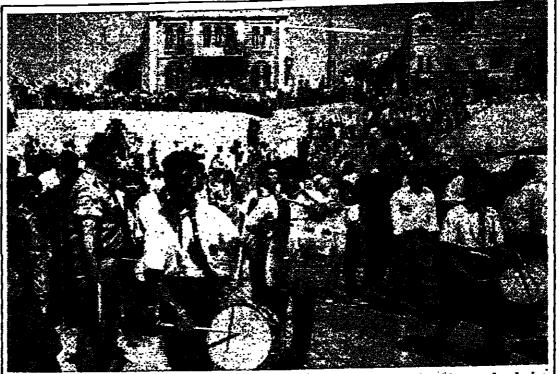
Even so, proponents of the PLO-Israel process predicted the obstacles would be over-

Avraham Tamir, who helped negotiate peace with Egypt and was an architect of the 1978 autonomy plan on which the current agreement is based, said it would take three months to implement once details are worked out.

He said the significance of the current pact was who it was with: the PLO. That gave the plan credibility - the lack of which forced Egypt and Israel to abandon efforts to reach a limited Palestinian self-rule plan in 1980.

"What is a historic breakthrough is not Gaza-Jericho. It is that we are dealing with the PLO," said Mr. Tamir, a former general who is close to the current negotiations.

Nicolas B. Tatro, the AP's chief in Jerusalem, has covered the Middle East since 1977.



PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY: Palestinian scouts Israeli police were on hand to keep order during march into the Old City of Jerusalem Monday to celebrate the birthday of the Prophet Mohammad. the start of intifada in 1987 (AFP photo)

### action over **Palestinian** autonomy

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) Jewish settlers in occupied areas being considered for Palestinian self-rule have vowed to mount a campaign of civil disobedience if the plan goes

Right-wing government oppo-nents said the moves toward an agreement for Palestinian selfrule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho would lead to an independent state that endangers Israel. Palestinians also expressed strong

misgivings.
"In terms of security of the state, we've always believed that a Palestinian Arab state in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank)... would endanger the very existence of the state of Israel," said Yechiel Leiter, a leader of the 120,000 Jewish settlers in the occupied territories.

The ultra-nationalist leadership of the Jewish settlements called an emergency meeting on Sunday and Leiter warned they would intensify their opposition to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's government.

"We will call for massive but non-violent civil disobedience," Mr. Leiter told Reuters.

Israeli government ministers said they had an agreement with Palestinians on an autonomy plan for the Gaza Strip and Jericho and would meet on Monday to approve it.

Government officials said the agreement, if signed at the 11th round of Middle East peace talks starting on Tuesday, would be a breakthrough in the 22-monthold negotiations. Israel insisted on Sunday it

would continue to provide security for Jewish settlers in Gaza and Jericho after autonomy is implemented. But settlers fear autonomy will

eventually lead to the creation of an independent Palestinian state in the occupied territories.

"This will allow the PLO to create a Palestinian state in stages," right-wing former Prime

Minister Yitzhak Shamir said. "These are most dramatic developments," said Moshe Katsav, head of leading opposition Likud Party's parliamentary faction. "We see them as buds for the war to come between us and the Arab

states. So we are very fearful." Likud parliament member Binyamin Begin, son of former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, called for replacing the government. "They are being not only very

Palestinians in Gaza were also highly suspicious of the agree-

clumsy but dangerous," he told

Israel Radio.

Queen Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ... 64281/6 Aklich Maternity, J. Amn ... 64241/2

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Italian, Al-Muhajreen ... Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh

Zarqa Govi. Hospital .... Zarqa National Hospital

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Princess Basma Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Iba Al Nafees Hospital...

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### Settlers vow | Sudan jets stop bombing areas bordering Uganda

Arua, Uganda (AFP) — mobilised force that cannot support that drove mobilised force mo over 100,000 people from southern Sudanese border towns have dications that the tide of war has strong feeling against the Kharchanged, sources said here Mon-

Heavy fighting started on Aug. 5 when the government launched an offensive against John Garang's faction of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which launched its own counter-offensive last week.

Over 47,000 people who have crammed into the little village of Kerwa. 160 kilometres south of the southern Sudanese regional capital, Juba, have confirmed that the spectre of a bloody offensive by government forces seems to have died down.

Workers of U.N. agencies and relief organisations said that the SPLA, despite its split into several factions, still possessed immense military firepower.

This is a war that no one will win in the battlefield," said one

Holland told AFP.

The SPLA's control of many stopped bombing raids amid in- areas of the south has led to toum government.

Colonel Garang wields immense support amongst the Dinkas, southern Sudan's most populous tribe, some of whom think that the split within the SPLA was only temporary.

"I think it will not be long before the SPLA is one again, Philip Chol of the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Association (SRRA), the humanitarian wing of the rebel movement, told

U.N. agencies and relief officials here believe the worst is over for the SPLA.

"Garang has weathered the storm. Khartoum authorities had expected SPLA areas to be soft ground, because of the split in its ranks," a U.N. official said.

Following the split, Col. Garang is reported to have launrefief worker 22. 10 viringly to ched a massive recruitment drive and him Garang's, Dinka 2. to beef up his droops refugees dominated SPLA are a highly arriving in northern Uganda said. ched a massive recruitment drive.

# **Experts search Yinhe**

dition of anonymity, declined to say when the inspectors began searching the Yinhe or how far

But the inspection is believed to have begun Saturday, a day after Saudi and Chinese officials boarded the vessel for talks with Captain Rude Chang and his

Sources have said that U.S. experts, including coast guard personnel, were flown in from Washington to back the Saudi inspection team. Chinese experts

also were watching the operation. Washington has said the Yinhe is believed to be carrying two chemicals, thiodiglycol and thionyl chloride, which can be

The 19,237-tonne ship was

port of call, refused docking rights following the U.S. allegations.

Saudi Arabia permitted the

Yinhe to berth at Dammam Thursday, after Beijing gave in to American demands that the ship be searched. The ship is being searched by

the Saudis to satisfy a Chinese demand that the vessel be searched by a third, neutral party. The Yinhe's shipping agents in the Gulf port of Dammam and shipping executives there said Saudi authorities had imposed

"strict secrecy" around the vessel. Port authorities had blocked the area around Quay 22, where the ship was berthed, they said. The Yinhe's crew, reached by satellite telephone, refused comment about the search, beyond saying "Please call my embassy, SOFTY.

An official Chinese team that arrived in Dammam last week to take part in the search, also refused to give any details.

"We have an agreement not to say anything till the search is finished," said a member of the team, reached by telephone in Dammam. "We will give you all the details after," he said.

Xie Juoping, deputy defence attache at the Chinese embassy in Riyadh, said last week that Beijing's decision was meant to prove that the Yinhe was not carrying any prohibited goods.

### U.N. talks unlikely to ease Iraq sanctions

NICOSIA (Agencies) — This week's technical talks betweek's Iraq and the United Nations are unlikely to lead to a removal of sanctions imposed on Iraq the Middle East Economic Survey (MENA) reported Monday.

The weekly newsletter, pub

lished in Nicosia, noted that Iraq is arguing it has complied with U.N. resolutions and therefore the international sanctions imposed after the Ang. 2, 1990 invasion of Kuwait should be

"However, such arguments are likely to be firmly opposit by major Western powers. Shich maintain that Iraq still has plong way to go to demonstrate, re-quisite compliance with U.R., re-solutions," the newsletter wote.

It said the areas of compliant that most concerned Western i tions such as the United States and Britain were disarmament. acceptance of the U.N.demarcated border with Kuwait, respect for human rights and the release of prisoners of war.

Talks that begin in New York on Tuesday also are to tackle the issue of the U.N. surveillance cameras that were installed at Iraqi missile sites but have not yet been activated. The newsletter also pointed out

several specific areas where Iraa's latest positions are unlikely to be, accepted by the Security Conneil. Among these:

— Iraq's insistence that the surveillance should be carried but

using Iraqi helicopters and aircraft. - Sanctions should be lifted unconditionally, including a re-

sumption in weapons shipments to Baghdad. The immediate ending of the

"no-fly" zones in north and south

raq.
MEES judged that since a full removal of sanctions is unlikely. observers feel that it may be only a matter of time before President Saddam Hussein is once again obliged to fall back on the alternative option of limited

and conditional oil sales. ", United Nations Security Coun-cil resolutions 706 and 712 allow Iraq to sell \$1.6 billion worth of oil under strict international control over a six-month period. Baghdad argues the terms violate its

sovereignty.
MEES said however that recent Turkish calls for a review of the sanctions were a "significant new element in the Iraqi oil eq 🕽

tion" although the "effect on U.S. thinking remains to be seen. According to the respected

weekly, Turkey has lost more than 34 billion dollars from the three-year-old sanctions, mainly due to the closure of an Iraqi pipeline through Turkey. In Bachdad, Oil Minister Osa-

ma Al Hitti said Monday his country was ready to resume exports immediately once the embargo was lifted and that was in contact with foreign oil firms.

### Iraq selling off

MEES also said the Iraqi govern ment is selling oil products to the Kurds in northern Iraq and raporting to Iran and Turkey, violation of the U.N. embl.

The sales to the Kurdish field north follow an agreement under which "gasoline, kerosene and gasoil are delivered from Month and Kirleit" and Kirkuk," according to the newsletter.

It did not specify when accord took effect.

"In fact, the oil is seeing delivered by the Iraqi military ladar trialisation Establishment (MIE) to two private companies that ostensibly work for it who in the deliver the products to the military vate Kurdish firms." The Sadded

vate Kurdish firms,"

### JORDAN TELEVISION

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÷	19-60	News in Franch
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٢	19:30	News in Hebresi
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•	22:00	News in English
•	22-20	Feature Film: "Mayor of Hell"
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### **PRAYER TIMES**

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#### Journali: newspapers CHURCHES

Other military triangreth Church Swelfich, open to the press. In a related develor Church, Tel. military source said that a sal 624590. batch of 65 defendants belotomeiation Tel. to the Vanguards of Conquextremist group go on trial ne 661757 Saturday. More than 700 mem bers of the group are involved ir.

Church Tel: 622366 Church Tel. 630851, Tel. Orthodox Church Tel. 775261. aim Church Tel. 771751. International Church Tel.

Evangelical Latheran Church Tel: 824328 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saluts Tel. 823824, 654932 rch of Nazarene Tcl.675691.

652526.

WEATHER illetin supplied by the Department of

Hot weather conditions will continue today with winds changing at times and occasionally becoming northeasterly moderate. Heat wave will gradually subside as of Wednesday afternoon. In prevail and winds will be northerly

Mili./Max. temp. 23 / 37 26 / 43

the heart of Israel.'

as a way of reviving the area some Israeli leaders have described the area as a "potential Singapore.

clinic there run by the French-

based relief agency Medecins du Monde (MDM), which is

helping mothers like her cope

clinic have marasmic babies,

but some cases of PEM called

"kwashiorkor" occur, in which

the child gets sufficient calories

but not enough protein, so that

they look swollen and if you

press the flesh of an arm a deep

impression caused by too much

March 1993, because mal-

nourishment is rampant in the

villages," says Anne Favre,

pediatrician and MDM medic-

Unlike other areas of Afgha-

nistan, Herat is experiencing a

welcome peace in the wake of

the 14-year struggle against

Soviet occupation and an

al co-ordinator for Herat.

"We opened this clinic in

Most of the mothers in this

with malnutrition.

fluid is left.

more than 200,000 residents jammed along streets straddled by sewage-glutted gutters, is said to be the most crowded real-estate in the world.

Gaza the difficult, and Jericho the calm

The uprising launched the Hamas, the fundamentalist Islamic organisation which is the PLO's main opposition and has as its declared aim the sabotaging of the peace talks. It is strongest in the strip.

Liprising attacks have vir--iomemories of pre-1967 crossborder attacks on Israel, when the Strip was controlled by Egypt. At the time, Israeli inda referred to to strip as "a dagger pointed at

would be happy to let the Strip go. Polls show that nearly half would give it up unilaterally. proposed massive investment

Most Israelis have said they Israel and the PLO have

ported Sunday that the Strip's likely resistance to compromise has led the PLO to demand a strong police force to control

have settled the south of the Strip. Their leaders have pubsaid they want out after repeated uprising attacks." By contrast, Jericho's palm-

Israelis. fortable start for both the PLO and the Israelis because most Palestinian residents and Jew-

compromise. ment decisions," Danny Lavie of neighbouring Kibbutz Almog told Israel Television.

"This will be an opportunity to But Israel Television re-

the strip. There is also the question of some 4,000 Jewish settlers who licly vowed not to leave, but privately, many settlers have

lined drowsy streets, ten kilometres from the Jordan River, represent a tranquil ideal to both Palestinians and The ancient town is a com-

ish settlers in the area are secular moderates who back We have a longstanding decision not to contradict govern-

Afghan communist regime, but

the process of normalisation

after such a traumatic era takes

Dr. Favre says adults among

the rural poor who are strug-gling to reestablish their liveli-

hoods can survive on rice or

bread alone but children need

a proper, well-balanced diet.

only 4.5 kilogrammes, when he

should be closer to 10 kilog-

rammes, says Dr. Favre. Un-

like many others, however, he

"The first five days in hospit-

al are critical for these babies.

If they come in weighing less

than 60 per cent of their nor-

mal weight for height, they

only have a 50-50 chance of

survival," cautions Dr. Favre.

although there is a need for 30

where the malnourished in-

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 38.8, Aqaba 45.2, Humidity readings: Amman 18 per cent, Aqaba 17

**USEFUL TELEPHONE** 

NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY** 

Dr. Mohammad Al Sway ...... 732056 Dr. Mohammad Al Nahawi .... 819213 Dr. Jamil Maraqa ...... 776149 Dr. Mukhlis Halasa ......

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AMMAN-

Al Salam pharmacy .
Yacoub pharmacy .
Shmeisani pharmacy

Dr. Fayez Al Oadi .

Nairouib t

IRBID:

She runs a 15-bed unit -

At 13 months, Abdul weighs

try and live with our neighbours." Jews know Jericho as the

first Biblical breach of the Israelites into the "promised land," where Joshua brought the walls down with the shouts of children. The hugely popular song, "Jerusalem of Gold," written

by Naomi Shemer in 1967, opines for access to Jerusalem "by way of Jericho."

For Palestinians, the heatdrenched oasis lacks the political activism identified with cities like Nablus and Ramal-

uprising. But the town of 10,000, famous for its cafes and restaurants, is important to the Palestinians because of its proximity to the Al Hussein bridge, the major border cros-

sing into Jordan.

The bridge is a link to employment and business ties in the Arab World, as well as

family ties in Jordan.

Starvation rampant in western Afghanistan fants are fed a special milk

> bean fortified rice. Older children receive carefully balanced meals which include one egg a day and fruit.

Favre explains.

even more weight loss.

Dr. Akram Haddad

Highway Police Traffic Police ...

Public Security Department Hotel Complaints .....

Water and Sowerage

Complaints ...... Tompian Municipality

Complaints......Telephone Information

Central Amman Telephone

Repairs ......Abdali Telcohone Repairs ....

Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615

Price Complaints ...

Food Control Centre ...... Civil Defence Department ..... 661111 Civil Defence Immediate

formula eight times a day until they are ready to leave, when they are given military-style ready-to-eat meals of soya-

"The mothers are given 3,000 Afghanis (about \$2) daily, which they pool to buy food such as rice, vegetables and meat from the bazaar," Dr.

Poor young families often get caught up in vicious cycles which are hard to break, comments Dr. Favre, such as a mother not having enough breast milk due to her own malnourishment - in which case poor substitutes such as tea are given to the child that may result in diarrhoea and

**EMERGENCIES** 

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### amid total news blackout BAHRAIN (AP) - Saudi in- the Gulf, insisting it must be spectors have begun searching a searched before being allowed to

Chinese merchant ship that proceed. Washington suspects of carrying chemical weapons ingredients to Iran, sources in the Gulf said Monday.

The sources, speaking on contheir work had progressed.

28-member Chinese crew.

used to make lethal blister agents, mustard gas and nerve

stranded outside the Gulf for nearly a month after Dubai, its

U.S. warships, which have been shadowing the Yinhe, had not allowed the ship to go past the Straits of Hormuz, gateway to

**JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR** FOR THE TRAVELLER

> INTERNA SUSPEAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oueen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5. where it should always be verified.

CIV WILL LIA

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) .....Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ) ....... Damascus (RJ) ...... Ohahran (RJ) . Muscat, Abu Dhabi (RJ) ... Karachi, Dubei (RJ ... Doha, Bahrain (RJ 10:30 17:35 London (Ri Frankfurt (RJ) Chicago, Amsterdam (RJ .. Madrid (RJ) ..... Madrid (RJ) Abu Dhabi (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2) Cairo (MS)

..... Cairo (MS) .... Abu Dhabi (GF) ...... Riyadh (SU) ...... Rome (AZ) Paria, Beirut (AF) DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) .... Amsterdam, New York (RJ) ..... Madrid (RJ) ..... Montreal, Toronto (RJ) .... Paris, Brassels (RJ) Geneva, Madrid (RJ) Frankfurt (RJ) 13:45 13:55 Bahrain, Doha (RJ) .... Laranca (RJ) Abu Dhabi (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2)

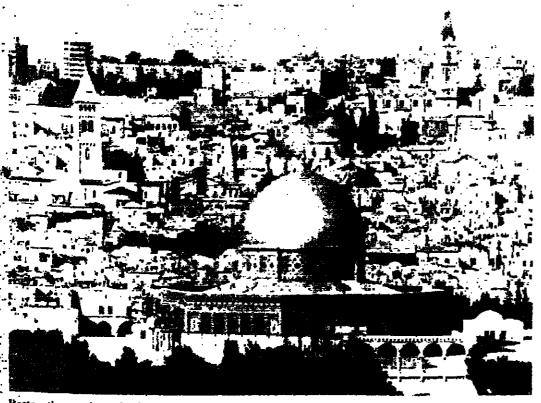
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Beirut (ME)

MARKET PRICES Cucumbers (large) Cucumbers (small) Grapes Okra . Pepper (sweet Potato







Kestoration work on the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem involves covering the dome with gold-gilded (Fire photo)

### General Islamic Congress for Jerusalem praises King's efforts to protect shrines

AMMAN (J.T.) -- The General Islamic Congress for Jerusalem (GICJ) Monday sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein prais-ing his efforts and continued drive to safeguard the holy places in the occupied Arab lands, parti-

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Cularly Al Agsa Mosque. Referring to the King's recent directives to the Prime Minister and the committee charged with restoring the Islamic holy places bout the reconstruction of the dicient minbar inside Al Aqua Mosque, GICI said that the step will further enhance Arab and Islamic rights and keep the mem-ory of Jerusalem alive in the

minds of the future generations. King Hussein Saturday ordered

the minbar (a stepped platform for preaching) brought to Jeru-salem by the Muslim leader Saladdin who liberated the holy city from the Crusaders in 1187

Specialists in reconstructing ancient sites said that the minbar will take at least two years to be rebuilt at the minimum cost of \$3

The rebuilding of the minbar. which was destroyed in a fire in 1969, is a reaffirmation of the King's determination to delend Jerusalem and A! Aqsa Mosque in the face of looming dangers of internationalisation and Israel's Judaisation of the holy city, said

GICI Secretary General Fayez Jaber sent another cable to King Hussein voicing the committee's appreciation of the Hashemite family's continued sacrifices for

the holy places in Jerusalem.
Also Monday, which was the anniversary of the Prophet Mohammad's birthday, King Hussein received cables of good wishes from kings and heads of state of Arab and Islamic coun-

The Prime Minister, the speak-er of the Upper House of Parlia-ment, the Chief Islamic Justice, heads of government depart-ments, public and private institutions and representatives of various sectors also sent cables to

### 12 typhoid patients recovering, no new cases reported in a month

AJLOUN (J.T.) — Twelve temic infection. typhoid patients are under treatment at Al Iman Hospital in Alloun and no further cases have been admitted, said a hospital

children and five adults were being treated and were recovering from the infectious bacterial

Al Khasawach was quoted carlier are saying that the hospital had taken necessary measures to deal with further cases if needed.

that enters the body via con--is absorbed into the bloodstream, · · · Most · major epidemics of

typhoid have been caused by pollution of public water supprocessing them, by flies, or by the use of polluted water for cleaning purposes.

treated sewage are dangerous.

All those cases so far admitted

24-hour surveillance and the Ministry of Health in Amman has been informed of the situation. said Dr. Khasawneh.

Last week in view of the summer heat wave, the ministry said it was taking extra precautionary measures to prevent the entry of cholera cases into Jordan from neighbouring Arab countries, where the disease was reported widespread.

as saying that typhoid cases do exist in the country, but he noted that since Aug. 22 no new typhoid cases had been reported in Jordan for five weeks.

### Wednesday By a Jordan Times

Meteorology Monday.

A department official told the Jordan Times that the heat wave, which started Saturday, was caused by hot, dry winds blowing towards the eastern Mediterranean zone from the Indian subcontinent and the Arabian desert.

day, and night temperatures in Amman will not drop to below

heat waves, said the official. Rafiq Shaker, the department deputy director, was quoted in the local press Monday as advising farmers to water their crops because the heat wave was evaporating whatever humidity was

was recorded by the department of meteorology in June when temperatures peaked at 39.2 C.



### Abbas Mahdi at the Royal Cultural Centre.

"The Eternal Torch," a variety of Circamian dances performances by Al-Jeel Al-Jadeed Club at the club's premises in the

### tsraeli cabinet

Arafat if he were permitted to go

Mr. Abu Sharif disagreed, Saying Mr. Arafat and all other Palestinians had the right to re-

Mr. Rabin indirectly confirmed seports that the plan had been worked out in a series of secret meetings in Oslo, Norway, between Foreign Minister Shimon Pages and a senior PLO official Gieved to be Mahmoud Abbas. The cabinet did not, however. tackle the issue of recognition of

signed by Israel and Egypt in nian aspirations to the Clinton

administration.

Member of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom M.R.C.P

Masters degree in Endocrinology and Diabetes. M.Sc. U.K.

Former specialist in Endocrinology and Diabetes in Charing Cross Hosp. and Glasgow Royal Infirmary U.K.

Announces that he has opened his private clinic in:

The Speciality Hospital

For inquiries please call: 06-693693

### Jordan could formalise \$895m rescheduling, partial settling of commercial debts — Gammo

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan hopes to formalise an agreement on rescheduling and partially settling \$895 million commercial debts by early October, Finance Minister Sami Gammo said Monday.

Work on related technical documents is almost complete after Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Deputy Governor Michel Marto visited London and helped prepare them early this month.

The documents enshrine an agreement that Jordan reached with the London Club of commercial creditors in July. The accord, involving \$745 million in capital and \$150 million in outstanding interest, was approved by the Council of Ministers shortly thereafter. "The documents are being

given the final touches, and we hope to sign and formalise the agreement by early October," Mr. Gammo told the Jordan

It was earlier expected that the agreement would be for-malised by late 1993, but with the speedy preparation of the documents the date was brought forward. The agreement offers the

creditors a choice of selling up to 35 per cent of the principal with a discount of 35 per cent and collect 50 per cent of the outstanding interest.

The rest of the principal -65 per cent — will be converted into 30-year par-value bonds guaranteed by 30-year U.S. zero option coupons (predetermined-maturityvalue instruments).

Ten per cent of the outstanding interest under this option will be paid immediately and the rest will be converted into 12-year dollar bonds and payable in 19 semi-annual instalments after a grace period of

Jordan will pay an interest of slightly above the London Inter-Bank offered rate (libor)

Estimates of the total cost of the partial settling and partial rescheduling agreement vary between \$75 million and \$90 uillion. But the accord with the London Club represents a major breakthrough for Jor dan, which started reschedul-ing its \$8.3 billion foreign debts since 1989.

The Kingdom, whose fore-ign debts now stand at around \$7 billion, has already rescheduled part of its dues to the

It expects to resume rescheduling negotiations with the Paris Club in February next year after securing a sevenmonth postponement. Paris Club members hold about \$4 billion of the Kingdom's total

Paris Club of creditor govern-

ments and government agen-

Diplomatic sources say Jor-dan would not find it difficult to reach rescheduling agreement with the Paris Club members as along as its adheres to the economic restructuring programme agreed with the International Monetary Fund

The IMF and the World Bank have been supporting Jordan's economic recovery efforts since 1989 and official from both international bodie say that the Kingdom has reg-

### Heat wave to last until

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The current heat wave which sent temperatures soaring to above 40°C in some parts of Jordan is expected to last at least until Wednesday, according to the Department of

In August, temperatures in Jordan usually range between 34 and 36 degrees, but they sometimes rise to 40 depending on the eastern winds, noted the official. He said that on Monday temperatures reached 38°C but were expected to ease a bit Tues-

In Aqaba and the Jordan Valley, temperatures reached 44°C in the past two days, which is normal for these areas during August

dry.
The first heat wave this year

## EC transfers JD22m to treasury in second part payment in support of Kingdom's restructuring programme

### By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan has received the equivalent of about JD22 million in the second tranche of payment from the European Commission (EC) as support for the Kingdom's economic restructuring programme, officials said

The commission transferred the amount - 25 million European Currency Units (ECUs) to the Jordanian treasury, Finance Minister Sami Gammo

The assistance in foreign currency will be used to finance the private sector's imports, and the proceeds in local currency in the exchange will be used for local infrastructure projects, said Jean-Pierre Pierrard, economic counsellor at the EC delegation in

The assistance is tied with the economic restructuring programthe International Monetary Fund (IMF)," said Mr. Pierrard, noting that last week's transfer was the second and final tranche of a 50 million ECU pledge the EC made

The community paid the first tranche last year and the second payment was delayed until Jor-dan secured IMF approval of a standby agreement on some of the measures it had to adopt under the restructuring programme, he said.

The channelling of the local proceeds of the foreign currency aid will also be in line with the restructuring programme.

"The programme sets out a priority list; water, education, civil construction and health, in that order, under a counterpart fund with the Ministry of Finance," Mr. Pierrard noted. Mr. Gámmo, the finance minister, confirmed Jordan's full since it also is in line with the Kingdom's development priori-"We have been focusing on the

same areas of development, and will continue to do so," Mr. Gammo told the Jordan Times. The EC assistance is not linked to the regular economic protocols that the community maintains with Jordan or the bilateral help that the EC member states ex-

The 50 million ECU payment came from the European Com-mission's funds for the Mediterranean region, he said.

tend to the Kingdom, Mr. Pier-

"Jordan receives the highest per capita assistance under this programme," the EC official

No definite commitment has been made by the European dan for the next fiscal year. Mr. pressed on this point.

But senior diplomats from European Community member countries say they have taken note of Jordan's recent appeal for economic assistance to help if cope with the severe impact of the Gulf crisis, including the return of more than 320,000 Jordanian expatriates from Kuwait and

other Gulf states. "The appeal is being studied by the concerned governments, and I expect movement in a positive direction soon," said a diplomate from a prominent Community

The European Community as a whole and individual members have said that their preoccupations with conflicts in Eastern Europe and the need to channel funds there have no impact on their commitment to helping Jordan and other countries in the

### Low food production is responsible for poverty, reduced food share — study

study on food supplies and Jordan's food production conducted by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has revealed that low food production in Jordan is responsible for poverty and a below normal rate of per capita share of

Mohammad Shahatit, head of the RSS Industrial Studies Department, supervised the survey which included people from various regions and the southern governorates of Jordan.

The results revealed that an individual's food energy intake has dropped from 3,460 calories in 1985 to 3,000 calories in 1992 as a result of reduced local food

Over the past two years Jordanians have lowered their conolive oil, vegetable and fruit, according to the survey. The Finance Ministry has re-

quested that the RSS determine

the effects of low food production on the country's balance of trade, Dr. Shahatit said. The low rate, he said, has had adverse effects on Jordan's balance of trade and payments and added a financial burden on the

cost of foreign imported products to rise. Jordan is self-sufficient in products like table eggs, tomatoes, cauliflower, eggplant, cabbage, and cucumber, but the Kingdom still has to import sugar, rice, tea,

national economy by causing the

coffee, legumes and fish. As an example of the burdens on the balance of trade deficits,

deficit stood at JD761 million in 1985, but rose to JD 1,008.6 million in 1990.

the southern regions of Jordan suffers more from poverty, Dr.

Noting that the population in

firmed earlier studies by the Ministry of Social Development which placed the incomes of JD 40 in 1978 and JD 68 in 1992 within the absolute poverty

### King congratulates 4 nations

AMMAN (Petra) - His Majesty King Hussein Monday sent a cable of good wishes to the King of Malaysia on his

anniversary.

The King also sent a similar cable to the president of Trini-

country's independence day

dad on his country's national

King Hussein sent cables of good wishes Monday to the presidents of Kirgizistan and Uzbekistan on their countries'

national day anniversaries.

The King wished the heads of these countries continued health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for their citizens.

#### PROCUREMENT NOTICE JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY AQABA THERMAL POWER STATION-STAGE II PROJECT TURBINE ISLAND CONTRACT (TENDER NO. 46/93)

The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the turbine island tender documents (Tender No. 46/93) for Agaba Thermal Power Station-stage II extension project, are available for purchase as of Aug. 29, 1993.

The tender consists of the design, supply, delivery, erection, testing and commissioning of two (2) steam turbine units each 130 MW with all auxiliaries for the above project which is an extension to the existing Aqaba Thermal Power Station that consists of two (2) x 130 MW oil fired power generating units.

The project will be divided into four major contract packages, the boiler island, the turbine island, the civil works and the fuel oil tanks island.

The bidders will be allowed to bid for one tender package, any combination therefore, or a single turnkey contract. It is expected that Arab and international funding agencies will participate in financing the project. Procurement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the respective lending agencies.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the secretary of the Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time. Jan. 3, 1994, at the JEA office in Amman.

Tender documents are available from the address given below for a non-refundable fee of \$3,000 payable to JEA for each set consisting of two copies of the tender documents.

Jordan Electricity Authority Zahran Street-7th Circle P.O. Box 2310 Amman-Jordan Tex.: 21259, Fax.: 818336

#### **PROCUREMENT NOTICE** JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY AQABA THERMAL POWER STATION-STAGE II PROJECT **BOILER ISLAND CONTRACT** (TENDER NO. 47/93)

The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the boiler island tender documents (Tender No. 47/93) for Aqaba Thermal Power Station-stage II extension project,

are available for purchase as of Aug. 31, 1993. The tender consists of the design, supply, delivery, erection, testing and commissioning of two (2) boiler units, each for 130 MW power capacity with all auxiliaries for the above project which is an extension to the existing Aqaba Thermal Power Station that consists of two (2) × 130 MW

oil fired power generating units. The project will be divided into four major contract packages, the boiler island, the turbine island, the civil works and the fuel oil tanks island.

The bidders will be allowed to bid for one tender package, any combination therefore, or a single turnkey contract. It is expected that Arab and international funding agencies will participate in financing the project. Procurement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the

respective lending agencies. Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the secretary of the Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, Jan. 3, 1994, at the JEA office in Amman.

Tender documents are available from the address given below for a non-refundable fee of \$3,000 payable to JEA for each set consisting of two copies of the tender documents.

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# the government to act to rebuild

source Monday.

The source reported that seven Hospital Director Abdul Aziz

Typhoid fever is caused by Salmonella typhi, a bacterium taminated food or water, later it plies. Food and milk may be contaminated, however, by a carrier employed in handling and

Fresh vegetables grown on soil fertilized or contaminated by un-Prevention depends mainly on proper sewage treatment. filtration and chlorination of water. and the exclusion of carriers from employment in food industries

and restaurants.

#### causing blood poisoning and sysfor care in Ajloun are under close WHAT'S GOING ON

#### the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and

**EXHIBITIONS** Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Shaker Al Shadi at Alia Art Gallery.

Exhibition of paintings by 25 Jordanian artists at the Housing
Bank Complex exhibition hall. Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Bishara Najjar at Eshbelia Art Gallery, Amra Shopping Centre. The paintings depict Jordanian-Palestinian heritage, Jordanian antiquities, Arab Jerusalem, rural life and natural scenery. A New art gallery, "Darat Al Funun," of the Abdul Majeed

#### Shoman Foundation. Programme includes the permanent exhibition and the "Chair" exhibition in Jabal Luwelbdeh. Exhibition entitled "Reflections and Colours" by artist Zeinab

(Continued from page 1)

Tuhis by the television station. He said he hoped the Israelis would now recognise the PLO. Mr. Zvilli said he was not sure Mr. Arafat wanted to leave Tunis to set up base in Jericho and that in any case the self-rule agree-ment did not give exiled Palestimians the right to return. But the Israeli army would protect Mr.

to Jericho or the Gaza Strip, he

turn to the region.

the PLO, said Rabin spokesman

Gad Ben-Ari. Mr. Arafat, visiting Yemen, was quoted as saying progress at the Washington talks this week depended on Israel's commitment to troop withdrawal from Jericho and the Gaza Strip.

Withdrawal would be just "one

stage in the negotiation process

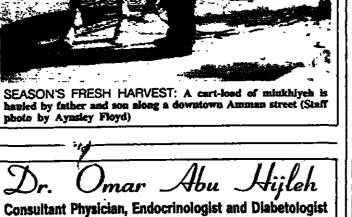
linked to transitional Palestinian

self-rule in the whole of the occu-

pied territories including Jerusalem," the official Yemen News Agency quoted Mr. Arafat as Mr. Arafat met in Yemen with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, the architect of the first Arab-Israeli peace treaty that was

Mr. Arafat told reporters the meeting with Mr. Carter was "friendly and constructive," And that he urged the former president to help explain the Palesti-

Mr. Carter was on a private



### **Jordan Times**

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### **Beyond euphoria: Caution**

JUST AS the Israeli government and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) gave their peoples strong signs that they are only hours away from signing an agreement on the Jericho-Gaza first option, voices of suspicion and doubt began to reverberate in both camps. Considering the huge implications that the reported accord would have on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem in particular, these doubts should, at least, be expected.

What is completely unacceptable, though, is the unjustified reactions of extremists among the Palestinian and Israeli opposition circles.

On Monday, Ahmad Jibril, leader of the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command, called for the assassination of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat as a "traitor." His threats can only be taken seriously but above all they should be condemned by Palestinians who support and oppose the Gaza-Jericho option alike. The ongoing debate among the PLO on the viability of this option should not become the launchpad for a vicious circle of divisions and internecine fighting within the Palestinian camp. Voices opposed to the Gaza-Jericho agreement should be expressed in a democratic, peaceful and healthy way. Only then will they be respected, appreciated and listened to.

Despite the shortcomings of the proposed agreement between Israel and the PLO, it redirects the Arab-Israeli peace talks to their right path: The Palestinian problem, the core of the conflict in the Middle East. That on its own is an achievement.

The Gaza-Jericho option, as presented by the PLO, would constitute the first step towards a final solution to the Palestinian problem. It would be the beginning of a long process that Palestinians insist should end with the regaining of the Palestinian people's national rights, including the establishment of a Palestinian state.

That said, the focus of the internal Palestinian debate at int should be the viability of the option and the attainment of guarantees that this initial phase of the agreement would not prejudice the final outcome of the negotiations: An Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and achieving for the Palestinians the right to self-determination.

That Jericho would house Palestinian institutions should not mean that the quest for Jerusalem as the capital of a Palestinian state can be abandoned. That Palestinian self-rule is starting in Gaza should not mean that regaining control of the West Bank is left out from the list of the PLO's top priorities.

The initial euphoria over gaining control over parts of the occupied territories should not, above all, prevent the PLO from carefully assessing the risks that lie in returning to Gaza. There are necessary preconditions that must be fulfilled in order to enable the PLO to run the Strip. Economic, social and political considerations should not be overlooked.

The PLO should approach the coming crucial stage of negotiations with Israel with utmost caution. It cannot afford failure nor can its constituency. The Gaza-Jericho option should work as a prelude towards realising all the political rights of the Palestinians. It should not become a failure which Israel can cite eventually to deny the PLO, and the Palestinians in general, their legitimate aspirations and right for statehood over their own land.

### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

IT WAS natural for Jordan to respond most favourably to a call by the president of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan, to the Arabs to end their differences and close their ranks, said Al Dustour daily Monday. Jordan, which has been advocating the idea of re-establishing solidarity among the Arab states in the wake of the developments of the recent years, has been the first Arab country to call for solidarity, said the daily. Jordan has been urging the Arab leaders to transcend the differences which benefit only the enemies of the nation and has been demanding that the Arabs turn a new chapter in their relationship in order to be able to confront dangers, said the daily. The paper said that Jordan strongly belives that only through a united stand and close ranks can the Arabs and Muslims regain their status among nations and that unless the negative aspects of the past three years were removed, nothing could prevent the enemies of this nation from dominating its affairs and future, added the paper. The paper pointed out that the city of Jerusalem is currently the target of a vicious conspiracy that can be detrimental to the Arab and Muslim rights and therefore there is no need for solidarity at all levels. It said that Sheikh Zayed's call is truely welcome in Jordan which will remain true to its pledge to work relentlessly to protect Arab rights and safeguard Islamic shrines.

SALEH QALLAB, a columnist in Al Dustour, focused attention on the Zarqa Governorate, the second largest city in Jordan, describing it as the mother of all cities and villages. Noting that it houses people form various parts of the country and the Palestinian land as well as Arab countries, the writer said that the Zarqa Gover wrate has nearly a million people, of whom nearly a carqa Gover that are eligible to vote in parliamentary elections. quarter of a namental and the in parliamentary ejections.
Only three persons represent all this population in parliament, according to the present and the previous election laws said the writer. Indeed, and to be fair, this governorate should be represented by at least 20 deputies in view of its huge population and because its sidents are mostly workers or employed by the 

The View from Fourth Circle

# Jericho-Gaza: A small triumph to build upon

THE APPARENT breakthrough agreement between Israel and the PLO on an initial self-governing Palestinian authority in Jericho and Gaza has generated much excitement, but also much scepticism and opposition in both Israeli and Arab quarters. What did we expect after nearly a century of Zionist-Arab nationalist warfare: children's choirs and free falafel sandwiches? The initial scepticism is a sign of more to come, including violence by extremists in both Israel and the Arab world. The fact remains, though, that great historical forces that were unleashed in recent years are starting to change the face of the Middle East.

The Jericho-Gaza option, if it materialises, will be an extraordinarily historic occasion: the first sign that the political and territorial gains of 20th century expansionist Zionism are being reversed. Sure, the arguments of the opponents of this move are based on reality: Jericho-Gaza is small stuff, self-government is not full sovereignty, the future of Jerusalem is unclear, Israel retains its occupational mode, and so on and so forth. All of this is real, but this method of all-or-nothing political action and historical analysis is no longer valid, for it has brought the Palestinians and the Arabs only failure and suffering in the past. The point of Jericho-Gaza is to vanquish the past, to engage the enemy with new weapons of political maturity and historical patience, and to usher in a better future based on realism, pragmatism, and hope.

Israel is gradually but persistently coming to terms with three things that it had always said it would refuse to accept: the Palestinian national reality of a people with collective and individual rights, the legitimate representational role of the PLO, and that Israel's borders have to revert to something approximat ing its pre-1967 frontiers. Jericho-Gaza is a dramatic symbol of these processes that have been forced on Israel, but, sadly, Jericho-Gaza is also being analysed by many as a sign of the weakness of the PLO and President Arafat, due to the PLO's financial and decision-making pressures. I would suggest this is a badly mistaken analysis that reflects the widespread Arab disease of intellectual dependence on Western media and diplomacy, and of psychological confusion generated by cumulative defeats at the hands of Zionism/Israel in the last century.

The reality is that this is a moment of mini-triumph for the PLO and for reasonable Palestinians and other Arabs who have insisted on the validity of patient diplomacy. It was inevitable that Zionism would have to accommodate itself to the Palestinian and Arab/Islamic reality, and Israel could not forever live as a military occupier or predator in this region. Israel finally recognised the Palestinian/Arab reality when the Palestinian intifada and the anti-Israeli resistance in south Lebanon revealed a new generation of Arabs willing to struggle and to pay a price for their rights, while at the same time the PLO and the Arab states decided to engage in responsible, patient diplomacy through the peace talks, rather than to cling to emotional slogans or make unrealistic, all-or nothing demands. Jericho-Gaza is the first tangible sign that this approach will bring results, if one is patient and clever enough to develop a strategy that aims for small gains that can be built upon cumulatively to achieve our long-term national rights and goals.

Jericho-Gaza is a small first step, the start of a very long process that might lead to Palestinian self-determination and sovereignty in several decades. But its symbolism is powerful. It represents the initial step in the geographical roll-back and political containment of Zionism, an early 20th century mass movement which, like communism, socialism, fascism, nazism and others, is being forced to come to terms with its fraying historical relevance. Israel as a fortress state dependent on foreign support, and occupying Arab lands in perpetuity, is a neo-Crusader model of imperialistic and predatory racism that promises the Jewish people only perpetual suffering and, perhaps, long-term annihila-tion. The future of Jews in Palestine and the Arab world is likely to be very much like their past, as one of several minorities living in peace and productivity in a region to which they are deeply tied

"Jericho-Gaza is a small first step, the start of a very long process that might lead to Palestinian self-determination and sovereignty in several decades. But its symbolism is powerful. It represents the initial step in the geographical roll-back and political containment of Zionism, an early 20th century mass movement which, like communism, socialism, fascism, nazism and others, is being forced to come to terms with its fraying historical relevance."

Those who fear that Jericho-Gaza is all we will get represent the battered Arab psyche of defeat and fear. Instead of mindlessly and immaturely uttering stupidities about how the Israelis will give us autonomy in Jericho and Gaza and then give us nothing more in the future, Palestinians and Arabs who are sceptical of the moves underway today should take some time to reflect on their own defeated psychological state, while appreciating the broader historical forces at work in the region today. Israel wants us to react with scepticism and negativism. It wants us to see ourselves as weak, defeated people whose fate lies in the hands of officials in Israel and Washington. Many — perhaps most — Arabs play along with this scenario. They doubt the peace talks will succeed. They think Arafat and the PLO are on the ropes and therefore must accept anything offered to them, no matter how humiliating. They think the Israelis are supermen who do what they want in this area, or that the Americans are super planners

who have already mapped out the future of the Middle East. This is perhaps a natural way to think for an Arab people defeated and dazed by history's injustices, but it is a way that we

should no longer tolerate in our midst, for it is a sign of the past, at a moment when we should focus on building the future. The future I envision will see Palestinian institutions slowly taking charge of the fate of the Palestinian people, wherever they may live; simultaneously, Israelis and Palestinians may recognise that if they accord one another equal rights and recognition they can work together for a better future for both people, while Palestinian-Jordanian confederal ties may mark the start of a new process of regional integration that must eventually spread to the entire Levant, including Israel/Palestine/Jordan, Syria/Lebanon, and Iraq as the three likely primary units of the future in this area.

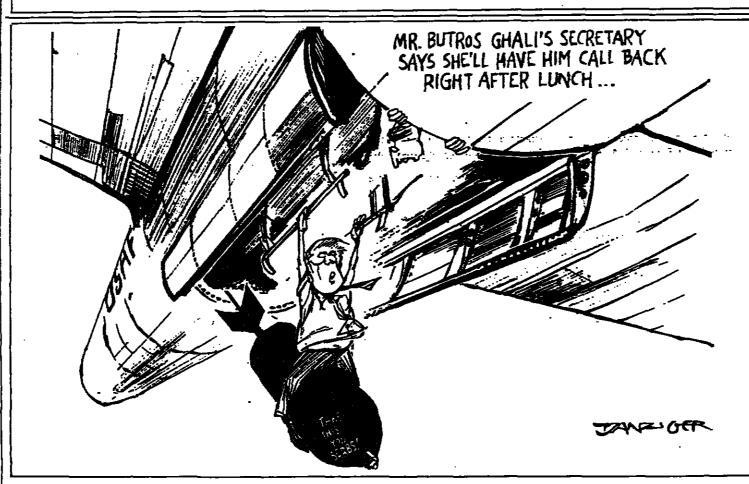
This future will only happen if Arabs and Israelis are sensible enough to maintain their focus on diplomacy as the key to detente, disengagement, and coexistence. For the Arabs, and Palestinians in particular, to heap abuse on the PLO now for its alleged financial problems, its autocratic president, its institutional weaknesses, or its diplomatic vulnerabilities strikes me as not only very odd and unfortunate, but also very sad and even slightly sinister. Why, at a possible moment of historical triumph for a Palestinian people who have suffered so greviously for so long, do

so many Palestinians and other Arabs find it appropriate for malign the leadership that achieved this progress?

The contorted and ailing political psyche of most Arabs is revealing itself very clearly today. Those who fear the future find it easy to condemn or to question present decisions that will usher in the future Of course the Pl O is middled with most area. in the future. Of course, the PLO is riddled with problems, corruption, inefficiency, and many of the other attributes that define the modern Arab political order and every single other Arab government and political power structure. So what's new? Who ever said the PLO or Arafat and Co. were angels? Who ever said they were anything more than a symbol of the Palestinian struggle for national rights, and, by extension, of the broader-pan-Arab struggle this century for dignity and a rational national

The sudden focus on the weaknesses of Arafat and the PLO is outrageous and slightly demented, in my view, at the moment when we have engaged the western powers in political action, cornered the Israelis, and started to reverse the excesses of Zionism. We are in the early stages of these processes, but we are in them, and moving ahead. When the PLO and Arafat are long gone, the issues of Palestinian/Arab national dignity will continue to challenge us. That is where our focus should be, and Jericho-Gaza suggests that we have a rare chance today to reap some small but real gains to start reversing our grievous historical experience this century. Those Arabs who are so confused and scared by signs of small victories would do their nation a service by taming their psychological weaknesses and political deficiencies, and instead trying harder to appreciate that the future does not have to be as bad as the past — unless they wish it to be. Have we been so badly shaken by defeat that we can no longer recognise progress and perhaps even victory when we stand before their unfamiliar arms?

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### U.N. multilateralism — a cure for ugly new nationalisms

By Butros Ghali

UNITED NATIONS, New York Multilateralism stands for a long-held but rarely achieved ideal: the voluntary cooperation of nations for peace and development. Today, multilateralism is working more effectively than ever in history.

Member states of the United Nations have heaped new responsibilities on the organisation. The danger, expense and scale of new operations exceed anything in the United Nations' history and are unique in the record of international affairs.

What is going on in places like Angola, Cambodia, El Salvador, Georgia, Haiti, Somalia, Tajikistan and the former Yugoslavia is nothing less than an effort to preserve the foundations of the state system while beginning to shape a post-cold war structure of peace and security.

This is a difficult endeavour, with far-reaching and uncertain consequences. It is being made even more difficult by the upsurge of two kinds of ugly nationalism: ultranationalism and micronationalism.

From one direction come assaults by ultranationalists who. apparently nostalgic for the years when one or a few big powers called all the shots, would prefer that the United Nations serve as cover for such interests and return to the relatively marginal role it played in years past.

In cases such as Bosnia and Somalia, when the secretarygeneral coordinates the political When it is suggested that the negotiations, humanitarian aid United Nations abandon this while their own unilateral efforts would not be sufficient or accepted as ty — The New York Times.

and peacekeeping operations, or approves the timing of a military action, it is not out of hunger for undercut by the uncoordinate the control of the contro power but because the Security Council has placed a responsibility on the secretary-general to do

But in these and other peace operations, critics have failed to recall, or have misunderstood or have knowingly disregarded requirements of resolutions that their governments may have voted for or even helped to draft. National forces that voluntarily serve under unified multilateral

command cannot expect to conduct or not conduct a military operation on their own decision or to decide in the field to disobey

Member states that elect not to provide troops cannot subsequently decide to enter the theatre of conflict at a time and in a manner of their own choosing. Governments should not feel aggrieved when the United Nations abides by binding resolutions and expects all states to do the same.

In many multilateral operations under way, the United Nations is attempting to deal with threats from micronationalism and the ethnic or tribal forces that cause states to fracture and fall apart.

In Somalia, the state and its sovereign authority and integrity ceased to exist as a result of these pressures. What the U.N. is trying to accomplish there is the restoration to legitimacy of one of its members.

when the multilateral effort is undercut by the uncoordinated decisions of those contributing to it, the failure of a mission and the loss of a nation's hopes are at risk. This would also undermine what is perhaps the post-cold war era's most fundamental task: the defence and strengthening of a cooperative and healthy international state system while defending legitimate minority rights within state borders.

Between ultra-and micronationalism, the U.N. seeks to preserve the nation-state as the very foundation of international life and to bring states together in an enlightened multilateralism that can enhance their specific interests while advancing the com-

If this is to succeed, governments can expect to act multilaterally or unilaterally -- but not to have it both ways at the same time. And subnational, ethnic or tribal factions cannot expect to undermine the political unit in which they exist while claiming the privileges of a sovereign nation-state. The quest to establish one ethnicity on one territory is being revealed for what it is, a generator of "ethnic cleansing," racism and crimes against human-

Today, member states have asked U.N. forces to go where they have not wanted their own soldiers to venture. Others have asked the United Nations to take the lead in negotiations where

legitimate.
The United Nations has been mandated to undertake comprehensive and costly endeavours to transform societies and states where the risks of failure and likelihood of long-term involve-ment have been far beyond any one state's interests. And many states also recognise that some problems — drugs, pollution, dis-ease, human and natural disaster - cannot be dealt with enduringly without multilateral effort.

A growing number of member states are concluding that some problems can be addressed most effectively by U.N. efforts. Thus, collective security is finally begin-ning to work as it was conceived.

Despite sethesis, such efforts are reviving his for achieving a workable international system. If this momentum is to be built upon and maintained, governments must overcome attitudes ingrained when nationalism seemed incompatible with multilateralism and exercise the discipline multilateralism requires. Ethnic and micronationalist groups need to realise that justice and prosperity cannot be attained in a world made unworkable by endlessly splintering factions.

U.N. multilateralism will not replace - indeed, it must foster - responsible regional, bilateral and independent international

The people of the world have become convinced that democracy is essential to progress with justice. Multilateralism is the

### Gaza is waiting for Arafat

By Sakher Abou Af Om Oss either that his father Abdul Agence France Presse buried in Khan Yunes," he

Saad, a jeweller, is also

"I am going to wait for

Arafat to come before I buy a

new car," he said. "That way I

will have a car with Palestinian

licence plates," he smiled.

Abu Sliman, who works at a

tyre repair shop, is waiting to

"I was in the same class as

Nabil Shaath and I hope to

embrace him," he said of Ara-

Mohammad Dawas, 32, a

"I support Gaza-Jericho first

graduate in business adminis-

but only if it is in the

framework of an overall agree-

ment on the interim period

covering all the occupied terri-tories, including Jerusalem."

Front for the Liberation of

Palestine, who opposed the peace process, have kept quiet. Not even a leaflet against the

Hamas and the Popular

fledgling autonomy agreement

has hit the streets as normally on the eve of a new round of

But not everybody agrees

with the terms of the agree.

Yunes Ajjaro, a lawyer link-

ed to the Popular Front, voiced

strong opposition. "Israel must.

first agree to a global agree-

ment covering all the occupied territories, including Jeru-

"Then we can talk about an

"I do not think Israel will.

ever pull out of here. If Arafat

thinks he is going to come and

he with have to share it with the

Israelis," said Ramzi Tarazi, a

-28-year-old Gaza engineer.

live in the governor's palace,

autonomous Palestinian gov-

ernment in Gaza or Jericho or

salem," he said.

elsewhere."

Middle East peace talks.

tration, is more cautious.

fat's political adviser.

among those waiting.

see old friends.

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip — The people of Gaza have already decided where PLO leader Yasser Arafat hould set up his headquarters for Palestinian autonomy.

The sprawling seafront building, used by the Egyptian governor until Israeli forces marched into Gaza in June 1967, has been dubbed "Palestine government house".

It may still be the razorwired headquarters of Israel's border police force and represent the occupying power, but the sturdy 1940s construction is no longer looked at with the

same trepidation. News had hardly broken that Israel was preparing to sign an outline agreement to grant the PLO self-government over the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho before the site had been selected by popular

Rumours crackled through the narrow band of land on the eastern Mediterranean on Saturday evening after a dozen political leaders were called to hear senior PLO official Mahmoud Abbas, Alias Abu Mazen, deliver important news

by telephone from Tunis. "He told us in substance: prepare the people for an agreement which will soon be signed with Israel," said Diab el Loh, who heads the Gaza High Commission, a Fatch

political group.

The commission immediately began handing out leaflets on Sunday saying that an autonomy agreement was im-

The mood of Gaza swung violently once more from despair to near euphoria. Yester-day most of the 775,000 people here could see little point in the Middle East peace negotiations which resume in

Washington today.
On Monday, hope was reborn and the people were waiting for Arafat, almost like a messiah, to be rid finally of the Israeli oppressor.

Mohammad Salem Al Qodweh, chairman of the Gaza Chamber of Commerce and a second cousin of Arafat, is impatient but sure of the re-

"Abu Ammar (Arafat) has spent his whole life fighting to liberate the land of Palestine and I do not see why he would not come back even if only a single centimetre of our land is

"It's true he was born in Jerusalem, but he spent a major part of his childhood in Gaza and it was from Gaza that he set off abroad.

"It should not be forgotten

new atte opei milit batc to t

said the writer.

3 Sign of the p. g the future he slowly the herever the lay recogni lay recognic to h people the start of a . nally spread to a syria/Leba.
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pair shop, is 🖘 i mends. 35 in the sam Shaeth and in e him," he see? olitical adviso ammad Daws is more cares ippon Gazz-Jerz only if it is 5 vork of an overven a leaflet 15 eve of a per f. e East peace in not everyboth

### Oceans can handle nuclear waste, scientist says

By Paula Sands

WOODS HOLE, U.S.A. -Many of the world's scientific elite recently joined together at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts to discuss the problem of nuclear waste dumping, among them geology expert Dr. Charles Hollister. "For the last year, there has been substantial press and scientific concern about new allegations that the Russians have made about Arctic radioactive waste dumping," he explained, "We thought that there was an awful lot of hype, a lot of misinformation - a lot of the stuff we were reading didn't make any sense to use from a scientific point of

So, Dr. Hollister says, when things got to this level of global concern, the world's leading experts on nuclear dumping — the scientists — decided to weigh in and try to "separate fact from He went to Russia twice to help organise the conference - "to get the right people on board, get them here, and explain what was expected of them, what it was all about.'

About 110 scientists from 11 countries and representatives from the Environment Defense Fund, Greenpeace, an environmental group that campaigns for nuclear-free oceans, and other advocacy groups had gathered at Woods Hole to express their opinions. Most of the circum-Arctic nations attended, including Canada, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Finland, the U.K., Lapland and Russia which sent more than 70 representatives. "The circum-Arctic nations are most concerned, and we brought them here to discuss the real, as opposed to perceived danger," Dr. Hollister said in an exclusive interview after the conference.

At the end, the consensus was clear, he noted. "We can see no biological, physical or chemical evidence that any of that material has entered the food chain or has caused any damage to the food chain, to human health or the environment at this time."

He added: "Danger to human health and the environment from deep-water sources of radioactivity, principally the (Soviet) nuclear submarines with their nuclear weapons that have sunk accidentally, is not, at the present moment, any cause for alarm. The same applies to all the reactors that have been dumped in the shallow Arctic by the Russians." He cautioned, "There are about 10 reactors on the Arctic

shelf that have fuel still in them, and they are estimated to be leaking into the environment at some point in the future - on the order of a 100 years or more."

At the conference the scientists

ran calculations on what would happen if all the reactors and containers dissolved immediately - a worst-case scenario. "Even when we ran the numbers on that, we couldn't some up with a serious threat to the environment or to the food chain or to human health," Dr. Hollister said. There were minority opinions among the advocacy groups that "were emotionally invested in this issue but, from a scientific point of view, after a global look at this, it was not a catastrophe, but it is of concern and we don't want to

IRDOTE IL." The Russians, according to Dr. Hollister, have been straightforward in opening some but not all of their files. "Even their members of parliament have said 'We don't have all the answers yet from our military colleagues'," he explained, "so there's a certain amount of frustration amongst them as well as ourselves ... There was a strong consensus that we have an open-file look at this legacy of the cold war. The classified data that the military have on both sides should be opened up to

During the past year, Russian reports have revealed additional examples of nuclear dumping a few more here and a few more there." Alexi V. Yablokov, whom Dr. Hollister compares to U.S. Vice President At Gore something like the covironment president of Russia - was charged by Boris Yeltsin with preparing a status report. "That report was brought to this meeting by cabinet, minister-and parliament-level individuals, and a free and open exchange took place," Dr. Hollister explained. Scientists believe they now know 80-90 per cent of what has been dumped and they don't see any reason to suspect that fish or any of the other living resources are in grave danger from radioactive

Yet Dr. Hollister noted that a tremendous amount of pollution has taken place in the Arctic region in the shallow bays and estuaries. Potential riverborne transport into the Arctic is a major concern, he said. "There's a lot of stuff in the rivers and dammed-up regions that drain into rivers that, if allowed to head to the Arctic, could change the picture substantively ... Another future source of concern is likely



Norwegian authorities have decided it would be too dangerous to raise the Russian nuclear submarine Konsolets which sank in 1989

Oceans also have vast dilution

arn about concentration effects

potential. "We still have a lot to

within the biological system, but

we haven't yet seen any of the

stuff (nuclear waste) concen-

trated in the muscles and tissues

of fish caught right next to the

sources of radioactivity," Dr. Hollister said. "There was a con-

sensus that before we went muck-

ing about trying to clean up some

of this mess, we should think

about the relative impact of

cleaning up versus leaving it

there: If you pick it up and stir it

and it's broken and leaking and

we haul it up from the bottom

and put it on a ship, then what do

we do with it? Most of us felt that

you've got to leave it there but

should keep watchdog on it."

Billions of dollars are not neces-

sary right now to clean up the mess, Dr. Hollister says. "In fact,

there were some serious sugges-

tions by a number of countries

that we simply leave this stuff

where it is, that maybe it isn't

"One of the proposals put for-

ward by the Russians was that we

whole new organisational struc-

ture to take care of this," Dr.

Hollister said. "We all agreed

that there are plenty of organisa-

tions that could be beefed up to

take care of this problem." For example, the U.N.'s Internation-

al Atomic Energy Agency, the London Dumping Convention, the Intergovernmental Maritime

Organisation, the U.N. Environ-

establish a whole new regime, a

such a bad place after all."

The scientists agreed "that we

monitor it."

(WNL photo) to be the submarines that are tied he explained. up at the shallow docks and their military establishments, which will have to be defueled and

decommissioned." "There are a lot of toxic materials that are relatively short-lived that have to be gotten rid of, so we are not sanguine about the future. We're very concerned that there's a lot to be taken care of, but the cause for alarm right now is way overstated." Dr. Hollister thinks there are bigger issues to worry about. "If you had to set up some priorities, I think some chemical wastes that are being dumped into our groundwater that come from what we call non-point sources along the coastal regions - runoff from farms and factories into drainage ditches and sewage outfalls -pose more of a concern."

"I would suspect that our best bet would be to let the punishment fit the enme. There are other major issues that really need to have attention. We don't drink seawater. We drink fresh water," he argued. "The atrocities that we are perpetrating against our groundwater are really serious - and it's a diminishing resource.

On the other hand, oceans based on preliminary data and the findings of the conference seem to have a fairly high tolerance for radioactive material and they seem to assimilate most of it. The radioactive materials hang onto clay particles, and the clay particles, by the force of gravity. go to the bottom and tend to stay, There's a natural scrubbing mechanism in the ocean that we might find interesting to study,"

Health Organisation. The monitoring will have to be

done by experts in ocean enmineering who can design instruments able to reach the bottom of oceans and measure what needs to be measured during a designated period, Dr. Hollister said. The public will decide where it

wants to spend its money, but if they ask the advice of the scientists, they will probably say that nuclear material in the ocean is not a particularly good place to put billions of dollars." The preferred alternative would be to monitor one or two sites, looking at them every three to five

If you take all the geological features available on planet Earth, Dr. Hollister said, the one that stands out as having the very highest capacity to retain the most toxic of these radioactive isotopes turns out to be the deepsea, fine-grained clays that cover

about half the planet.
Between 1974 and 1986, the U.S. and seven other countries -Woods Hole was one of about 50 institutions involved - were studying the feasibility of isolat-ing high-level, radioactive waste into submarine geologic formations. In 1988, the eight countries agreed on paper that the deep-sea clay formations would provide one of the better barriers to contamination.

There's no doubt that we all felt that the deep-sea clay formations held great potential to iso-

biosphere forever," Dr. Hollister said, "A simple calculation based on very conservative estimates would say that if you put plutonium, one of the worst of the bad contaminants and a major component of weapons, about 100 feet below the mud - which is an easy thing to do, just letting it free fall into the sediment, which

years, it is all decayed." the test of time," Dr. Hollister added. "But the programme was canceled ... after the U.S. Department of Energy decided against "The scientists that worked on it, including Dr. Hollister, judged that the deep-sea clay formations could be a very useful medium for the permanent disposal — or recovery, if desired - of high-

level nuclear waste. The problem of how to dispose of nuclear waste will only increase, Dr. Hollister said. "As long as we want to have electric power, we're going to have nuc-lear waste," Dr. Hollister said philosophically. "We're not going to have oil forever. The civilian use of nuclear power is an important component of our power-hungry supply." He added, "I'm not too sanguine about some of our reactors. Each one was

almost a one-of-a-kind design ...Instead of just pumping out a lot of jeeps, we pumped out one

is very soft sticky sediment like toothpaste - it would take about 100 million years to leak out. And, of course, in 100 million

Those calculations have stood

Cadillac, one Ferrari - it's hard to have a garage to take care of all those different cars." The Soviet reactors and their safety records and their efforts to protect human health have, in the past, and continue to be of much lower quality," Dr. Hollister added. "I am concerned about

nuclear power, and power dependency on nuclear designs needs a lot of work." He says a good place to spend money is on cleaning up "dirty" reactors, making new ones all of a similar design and increasing safety standards and inspection routines -World News Link,



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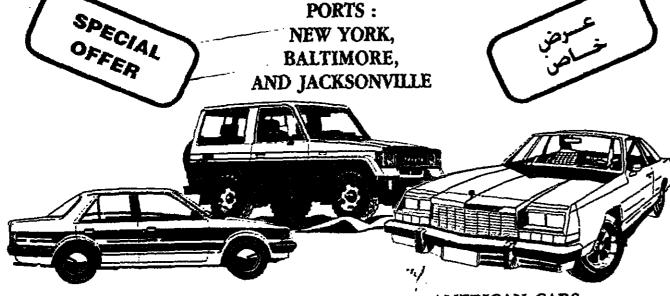
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### **OAPEC** sees developing countries as future market for Arab oil

veloping countries will become the main importers of Arab oil in the long run as demand is expected to slow down in industrial states, according to an official Arab study.

"Consumption of oil in the industrial states has reached a level of saturation and growth in demand will decline whether the proposed carbon taxes are imposed or not," said the latest monthly bulletin of the Cairobased Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries

"At the same time, many relatively poor nations will push cent in other industrial nations.

with attempts to improve their economies, especially those countries which have made headway in development by relying on free market incentives and attracting investment," the report said.

These countries will provide the fastest growing markets for petroleum products, especially in the transport sector," he added.

The study, obtained Sunday, said only 20 per cent of the current 400 million cars in the world are in the developing countries while nearly 40 per cent are in the United States and 30 per

expects the total cars in the world to increase to one billion by the year 2020, of which half will be in the developing countries," the Arabic language bulletin said.

Oil demand in developing countries currently accounts for around 18 million barrels per day (b/d), nearly 27 per cent of the total. In the industrial states, consumption is estimated at 40

The European Community has remained the top importer of Arab oil and regional producers fear its proposed carbon tax will hurt demand and further depress their earnings, already sharply pointed out.

down because of weak oil prices.

"Oil producers do not have prior concepts of what will happen and they lack a strategy for joint action," said OAPEC, which groups Saudi Arabia and nine other key Arab oil produc-

"The present crisis facing oil states require cooperation to lay down a common ground where they can assess reserves and plans to develop them, and consequently come out with a flexible system of production quotas that match market needs and revenues of producers," OAPEC

# Washington says U.S. only

industrial country where there was a drop last year in the cost of an hour's factory labour, the gov-

Compared with 12 competitors, including Japan and Germany, employers' labour costs in the U.S. have been falling steadily since 1985, according to figures released by the Labour Department. The decrease has

both in pay and productivity. So it gives an indication of the advantage gained by U.S. employers in competition with those

The 1985-92 period also saw a sharp decline in the price of the U.S. dollar, compared with other currencies. A smaller decline in U.S. labour cost - 13 percentage points - appears when costs are measured in each country's own

The department's Bureau of Labour Statistics made its figures available only in percentages, not

Canada's labour costs dropped by them.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 5.2 per cent last year but that was United States was the only major only because of the drop in the price of the Canadian dollar. Measured in national currencies, the costs in the United States showed the only drop — 1.5 per cent, and Canada's cost was flat.

In dollar terms, Japan had the biggest cost increase for the year
— 18.3 per cent. Other increases ranged from Taiwan's 12.4 per cent to South Korea's .5 of 1 per cent. West Germany had a 12 per cent increase; the figures take no account of unification with the former East Germany.

The average output per hour of American workers rose by 4.6 per cent — a rate exceeded among 11 major countries only by Britain, 5.1 per cent, and Sweden, 4.7 per

Japan was only one of the 11 to show a decline in average hourly output. Its 6.2 per cent drop was largely due to decline in output, the Bureau commented. "Labour hours were reduced by only one per cent.'

The result may reflect the widespread practice in Japan of

### Yeltsin vetoes Russia's anti-Western banking law

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin has vetoed a banking law threatening to clamp down on foreign banks in Russia, Interfax News Agency said Mon-

Mr. Yeltsin has sent the act, passed by parliament in July but yet to become law, back to the Soviet-era legislature for reconsideration saying it puts "unjust" limits on foreign banks.

The act urges offshore foreign banking rules and orders the cen-tral bank to review licences it has already issued - to French banks Credit Lyonnais and Societe Generale, jointly to German Dresdner Bank A.G. and French Banque Nationale de Paris, Z-Laenderbank Austria A.G. and Bank of China.

A presidential veto can be overruled by a two-thirds parliamentary majority.

Parliament wants all foreign bank licences cancelled by January if not renewed by December. It orders the central bank to limit number of foreign banks authorised to deal with Russian firms with export/import licences.

It also vows to restrict foreign bank services in Russia in 1994 and 1995 to those for foreigners

Russia, with over 1,600 local banks, has a strong anti-Western banking lobby which wants foreign banks at bay and fears com-

Other foreign banks quencing up for a full licence include two of the biggest U.S. banks, Chase Manhattan and Citicorp, as well as to Switzerland's Credit Suisse and Turkish Garanti Bank.

Existing foreign bank legislation caps the amount of foreign banks with capital and geographical limits. It limits the total capital of all foreign banks in Russia at 12 per cent of that of all Russian banks, many of whom are undercapitalised.

will help revive the sagging TV

market and goes some way to-

wards finding one of the holy

grails of modern electronics — a TV monitor as slim as a painting.

usher in the age of high-definition

television (HDTV), traditional cathode ray tubes are getting in

the way. They are too bulky when

made into the huge TV screens needed to appreciate HDTV's

plays clutter up desks in cramped

Analysts say flat vision will

As electronics con

### French baby-boomers face raw deal on retirement

PARIS (R) - French babyboomers, a generation imbued with the fun-first, work-later ethics of the 1960s, will face a raw deal on retirement.

Under new pension laws quietly enacted this weekend, and to come into effect on Jan. 1, people born after 1948 will have to work harder and longer than genera-tions born in the 1930s if they hope for a prosperous old age.

This may seem tough, yet the new legislation passed by Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's government after only five months in power is being hailed as a major victory for the survival of the French welfare system, seen as one of the world's best.

"The government has shown

enormous political courage," the conservative Le Figaro daily said administration," said the leftwing new law. daily Liberation.

The law will gradually increase the number of years needed to be worked to earn a full pension from 37.5 to 40. It also increases to 25 from 10 the number of so-called "best years" of salary that are averaged out to provide the basis of calculation for pen-

This effectively means that the current generation of French "forty-somethings" will have to work beyond the legal retiring age of 60 to take home a full

ties, who warmly backed the 1983 Monday. "This is the most ex- decision by the former ruling traordinary economic and social socialists to stop work at 60, have feat yet staged by the Balladur not chided Mr. Balladur over his

"A social monument has collapsed without a whisper," said liberation.

Why? because retirement funds were so far in the red that the whole system was at threat. The fund is expected to show a deficit of 60 billion francs (morethan \$10 billion) by next year.

The reasons are the same the world over. The fall in mortality coupled with the rise in memployment has meant fewer people working to support a growing number of pensioners.

### Mutual fund surge poses dangers for U.S. policymakers

WASHINGTON (R) — A huge transfer of individual Americans' wealth over the past few years from the relative safety of banks and pension funds into volatile stock and bond markets is making Wall Street money managers ner-

They worry that Washington policymakers and regulators worldwide are paying too little attention to what will happen if today's heated markets reverse

"You would have a lot of people with a lot of red ink sitting around a lot of living rooms in America," said Robert Johnson, managing director of Soros Fund Management.

Never before have so many people's individual assets, much of it saved for retirement in mutual funds or pension plans, been invested directly in the financial markets.

And never before has technology allowed investors to move massive sums of money so quickly when markets change course.

Together the two factors are a volatile mix. Officials at the Federal Re-

tables to pop out when wanted.

ter monitors, display panels in cars and personal TVs for airline

They could be used as compu-

Until now, the most widely

flat TVs has been liquid crystal

displays (LCDS).
A number of Japanese com-

panies have poured billions of

yen into developing colour ver-

sions of these, best known as the

displays on wristwatches and electronic gadgets.

tiny transistors to switch indi-

vidual dots of light on and off.

cult to make, and they are very

expensive. An 8.6-inch (23-cm) colour LCD TV costs over

But this makes large ones diffi-

Colour LCDS use thousands of

serve Bank - the Fed - say switch of private money to mar there are no formal studies under way on how this concentration of personal assets in the stock and bond markets would affect the financial system during a prolonged or deep market slump.

But they plan down any suggestion that a shift of money out of the Fed-regulated banking system is eroding the central bank's traditional power to influence the course of financial or monetary

By June 30, mutual funds' assets swelled to \$1.8 trillion, almost matching the \$2 trillion held in bank deposits and up from \$1.1 trillion in mutual funds at the beginning of 1990.

This has helped push prices in the stock and bond markets to record highs this year. Three factors are behind the

ket investments from secure income-producers. Most talked about are the low vields on bank deposits. But a study by Raddon Financial

Group found that only eight per cent of maturing bank deposits are being transferred to mutual Another big influx of money is coming from companies that are replacing pension funds, which guarantee monthly cheques for retired people, with plans under

which individuals invest their re-

tirement savings directly in stock

and bond funds. In addition, insurance companies have stepped up sales of variable annuities, the returns for which fluctuate with market performance, in place of products offering fixed payouts.

#### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY AUGUST 31, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This evenings Fall Blue Moon in Pisces opposes the Virgo Sun so be sure you have all the information you need to put that new idea into orbit and that you have handled all objections from other sources.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

Consider well how you can best put

some new ideas into motion and

then you will be able to express them in a charming and well thought out manner. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A problem at home that is taking a while to solve can be finished early

and then you will be able to invite those you want to know for some-time into your bome. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A

delayed communication seems to hold you up for awhile but soon this passes and you are able to get across to others what you expect of MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) You expect some material benefit and as soon as it arrives you will be able to put in motion a plan whereby you can increase your

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) After making an improvement in your personal appearance you will be able to gain the various personal conditions that mean the most to

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You feel a limitation that you

think holds you back from getting the pleasures you desire but go after them in a brave manner and they are yours. LIBRA: (September 23 to October

22) Forget past interests that have not been satisfactory and concentraft upon a new set of conditions that can be developed into an overwhelming interest. SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) An older person seems to be keeping you from getting some persist in good humour and you can win over circumstances. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 21) Holding on to the past will not bring you the greatest success you desire so be more operaminded to accepting change. new heginnings.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) After you have attended a longstanding obligation you will find you will be able to see your way clear to having a greater abundance.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A delay in some worldly activity should not keep you from extracting the fullest possible potential benefits that can come to you from outside interests.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Think about what you can do to get rid of a womout method on your job and be on the alert for new ways of doing what also are more attractive.

### **Azerbaijan resists** pressure for new rouble zone

BAKU, Azerbaijan (R) — War, unrest, rebellions, refugees and coups have been Azerbaijan's lot since it left the former Soviet Union in 1991, but it does not wont to be drawn back into dependence on Moscow.

· However, Russia's July currency reform — scrapping pre-1993 rouble banknotes — has put new pressure on the southern state to do just that, Finance Min ster Salih Mamedov said in a recent

The July move effectively killed off the old shared Soviet rouble and brought in a Russian

Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan have agreed to set up a new rouble zone, accepting Russian monetary control. But Mr. Mamedov said Azerbaijan was unlikely to follow suit.

"I think it would be hard for us to go into this new rouble zone. although until the government takes a final decision it's just my opinion," Mr. Mamedov said, "I don't think we should go in. It envisages control by the Russian Central Bank over all reserves, interest rates and banknotes. This would not allow the implementation of our autonomous economic and financial policy."

Like many other ex-Soviet republics, oil-producing Azerbaijan brought out its own currency in its first year of independence. The manat worth 10 roubles, was used in tandem with the ex-Soviet

But plans to dump the rouble altogether were delayed several times. Mr. Mamedov said the latest deadline - Sept. 1

would not be met either. He said Azerbaijan was trying to avoid accepting the card Moscow was forcing on it and, instead, to go on laying solid foundations for a move to a manat-only

economy later. He said inflation ago, half Russia's monthly rate.

The huge expense of the war, and the upkeep of hundreds of thousands of refugees, is offset by production."

DEAR GRANDMA, I AM

DICTATING THIS LETTER

TO MY SISTER SALLY WHO IS STUDYING SHORTHAND.

Peanuts

**Andy Capp** 

Mutt'n'Jeff

MUTT, I MADE UP MY

MIND! I'M GC NG OVER

AND PROPOSE TO THE

RICH WIDOW BIRDIE

AT THE LADIES'

dwindling but still substantial oil income from Soviet-era onshore

Work has started on creating a dollar-manat interbank exchange and reserves are being put aside to back a new currency. "Reserves so far aren't very big, about \$50 million, but we are gradually adding to that," he

Western diplomats say Azerbaijan will need about \$200 miilion to back its currency. But there is no reason the country, with assets including huge oil reserves off its Caspian Sea coast, should not be able to create a big enough fund.

Mr. Mamedov said the main obstacle to the step-by-step changeover was the chaotic political situation, which has made international financial organisations wary of helping Azerbaijan-with a stabilisation fund and balance of payments support.

"If we had a bit of support from the International Monetary Fund ... we could get out of this position very quickly," he said. Armenians from the disputed territory of Nagomo-Karabakh have taken control of the enclave and large tracts of Azerbaijan in a series of military victories.

But Mr. Mamedov said he had high hopes of a economic union between former Soviet republics.

Unlike the new rouble zone, this would benefit republics economically without threatenin their sovereignty. Payments be-tween republics would be made by converting domestic currencies, rather than using roubles as a common currency.

'We should join it," he said. "Our economies are all closely integrated and cutting those links in the lat two years has led to factories closing. More than a third of the falls in production here are linked to our cutting off ties with other republics. If there is an economic union, we'll be able to put that right and steady

SO WHAT?

I'M TIRED OF

BACHELOR!

BEING A

LITYLE

DEAF!

### major country where labour cost dropped last year

emment has said.

amounted to 62 percentage

The figure reflects changes of other countries.

in actual money.

Measured in U.S. dollars, even when there is little work for

sushita Electric Industrial Co. un-

veiled a briefcase-shaped televi-

sion screen Monday it hopes will

revolutionise television and said

mass production would reduce its

price to less than twice that of

The new screen makes it possi-

ble to build a 14-inch (36-cm)

television set less than 10 cm

(four inches) thick. Industry

analysts shown a prototype set

ticular difficulties in manufactur-

that on a regular TV.

ing the screens.

present TV tubes.

Matsushita claims flat TV break through They plan initially to make only 1,000 screens a month. TOKYO (R) - Japan's Mat-

> two times that of the cathode ray tubes that go into regular television sets. These now cost about \$200 a similar size. The company expects largescale production to begin in the

When they reach mass produc-

tion, the price is expected to

come down to between 1.5 and

next few years but gave no timet-"Cathode ray tubes are made by the million," Keisuke Yama-moto, director of Matsushita's said its picture looked as good as crystal-clear images. Even now, TVs take up space TV research laboratory, told a in homes, and fat computer dis-

When it first hits the market this October in Japan, each flat vision television will cost a whopnews conference. ping 288,000 yen (\$2,770).

But Matsushita engineers said the hefty price was due to low production volume, not any parameters. A technique called electrostatic deflection permits the 10,000 pic-

ture units in the screen to be change the way TVs are used. activated without the long Sets will fit on to book shelves "throw" needed by conventional and into kitchen cabinets and

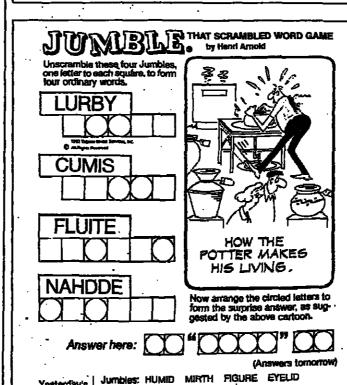
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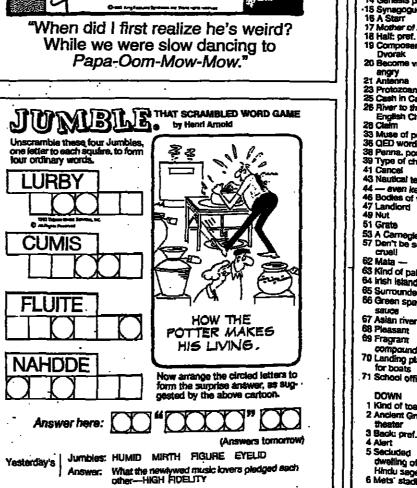
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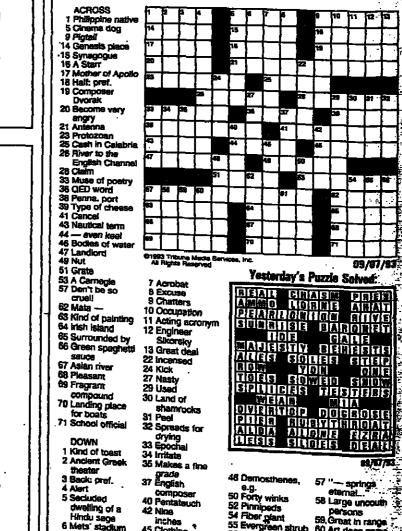
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THE Daily Crossword by Florence C. Adler

### Israeli government sells 22.4% of Bank Leumi

TEV AVIV (R) — Israel's government Sunday sold 22.4 per Leumi, Israel Discount Bank and Bank Missahi — after their value cent of its shares in Bank Leumi, continuing its privatisation of ma-

The offer was oversubscribed S00 times, bankers, and traders

If all warrants attached to the shares — exercisable in seven and ten months - are used, it will reduce the government stake to 72.6 per cent from 95 per cent, treasury sources said.

The issue raised about 500 miltion shekels (\$174.52 million) eash for the government immediately. Another 600 million shekels (\$209.42 million) will go to the government if all warrants are exercised.

Bank Leumi's 1992 assets totalled \$28.4 billion,

Ten years ago the government had to step in and indirectly buy banks shares in the country's biggest power.

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iese: S insisten. Bank Mizrahi - after their value collapsed.

Under the "bank shares arrangethe shares back to the public within ten years.

The sale of Union, a tiny institution compared with the "big four," was a first step toward applying reforms to the larger banks aimed at curbing their

# new avenues of raising revenues

of India's state-dominated industry is vital to sustain the country's economic reforms and involvement of foreign companies is essential, a senior business leader his seid.

torms. First of all, it will send out positive signals about India's commitment to liberalise and globalise its economy," said the president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Assecham), M.N. Dhuldhoya, in an interview.

Mr Dhuldhoya said privatistion would recharge the public ector which had not yielded any significant return on investment of about 1,000 billion rupees (\$32 billion) pumped into it since the

"Privatisation will bring in new volumes of capital, state of art technology and international business links,"he said.

Faced with a mounting foreign debt of \$71 billion, India launched a bold reform programme in July 1991 in a bid to free an economy shackled by 40 years' of socialist dogma,

But the government has so far limited its divestment in 31 stateowned firms to 20 per cent of Analysts say the funds raised

through selling equity to stateowned mutual funds and financial institutions had been used by the government only to bridge its budget deficits.

'Instead of creating assets from an asset, you have really put it into expenditure. The minute scepting the formula that the the next three to four years.

Investigations showed the banks had routinely manipulated the value of their own shares. ment," the state planned to sell

in the first sale under the agreement, the government sold 20 per cent of its shares in Bank Hapoalim, the country's largest bank, in May. In June it sold 60 per cent of Union Bank, jointly owned by the government and Bank Leumi, to a group of privale investors.

### Privatisation seen vital for India's reforms BOMBAY (R) - Privatisation

have died out," Mr. Dhuldhoya said. "By eating up revenues, the government would not be able to repay even its interal debt, estimated to be half the GDP (cross domestic product). "Privatization will help the re-

In this context, India could draw on the experience of Britain, Mexico and Chile on privatisation, Mr. Dhuldhoya said. Mr. Dhuldhoya called for setting up of a privatisation ministry

directly under the prime minister, manned by professionals.
"If need be, the government could even involve consultants

from abroad to handle privatisation, he said. You can invite specialists involved in privatisation on a global basis and even, at an agreed

price, you may be required to hand it over to them," Mr. Dhul-He said privatisation should be carried out on a global scale and involvement of small investors

was vital for privatisation. "I genuinely believe that the interests of the private sector or private small investors is going to be the greatest support to the system of market economy," he

Once the small investors had achieved prosperity through equity their stake in the system would grow bigger, he said.

Analysis believe that India's growing investing population of about 20 million will lap up state sector shares once they are offered to the public.

Mr. Dhuldhoya said the privatisation ministry could draw up a nian for at least

### S. Korea to reschedule loans to Russia

SEOUL (R) - South Korea plans to reschedule its loans to Russia following Moscow's default on repayments, a foreign ministry official said Monday.

Vice Foreign Minister Hong Soon-Young told reporters South Korea would freeze the disbursement of the remaining \$1.53 bil-lion portion of a \$3 billion loans and aid package extended to the former Soviet Union just before the two countries established diplomatic relations in September 1990.

Russia, which took over responsibility for the loans after the collapse of the Soviet Union, is in default.

South Korean financial officials will travel to Moscow in Septmber to reschedule the debts. Mr. Hong said the loan suspension was decided as Moscow no longer wanted further loans from

South Korea.
"They (the Russians) have said

the interest rates and other conditions on South Korean loans were unfavourable," Mr. Hong said. South Korean officials said Russia had previously warned it principal and interest on its loans. South Korea has disbursed \$1 billion in cash to Moscow and \$470 million in tied loans to finance imports of South Korean goods so far.

The finance ministry official said overdue interest on the cash loan totalled \$88 million as of August, while defaulted interest payments on \$470 million tied ioans between January and August amounted to about \$14.9

In November 1992, Russia promised to payoff \$36.8 million of the overdue interest on the \$1 billion cash loan with aluminium

But Russia has sent only \$12.7 million in ingots to South Korea

According to the terms and conditions of the loan agreement, Russia was supposed to repay the principal of the cash loan over a five-year period beginning next year, the official said.

Repayment of the principal of the tied loans was scheduled to begin in November this year, the official said but gave no details on the precise terms.

without jobs largely because of poor economic growth and a high birthrate, President Robert Mugabe said Monday.

ployment rate of 30 per cent tends to understate the severity of the unemployment problem in the country," Mr. Mugabe said, disclosing the national jobless figure for the first time since he assumed power in 1980.

"Unemployment is highest among those aged between 14 and 25 years. According to a labour force survey carried out by the (government) Central Statistical Office, unemployment amongst youths in this age bracket was found to be as high as 40 tr cent in 1986," he told a labour conference in Harare.

Economists said joblessness had worsened since that survey, with only a tiny fraction of Zim-

Zimbabwe's economy crashed

Mr. Mugabe urged nongovernment organisations to work to increase employment in the informal sector and in smallscale industries.

### Bumpy road ahead for Japan's car makers

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's auto industry faces a rough road to the next century as soaring production costs, slack demand and pressure from trade partners endanger its traditional strategies.

The expansion strategies that powered the industry to global preeminence, like boosting sales volume while sacrificing short-term profit to gain market share, are becoming impracticul because the car makers need to drastically cut costs, according to a recent report by the influential Industrial Bank of Japan. "The single most important

factor driving up costs is the rising yen," Mathew Ruddick, an industry analyst at James Capel Pacific Japan Securities, has said. A more expensive yen makes Jananese products more costly to overseas consumers and thus less competitive. It also eats into the yen value of profits brought back

Automakers are responding by cutting costs and shifting more production out of Japan, analysts

The report says Japanese automakers must do both on an unprecedented scale to cope with sinking profits. Toyota Motor Corp., Japan's

biggest car manufacturer, announced Wednesday that its group net profit dropped 26 per ent to 176.46 billion yen (\$1.70) billion) in the fiscal year that ended June 20.

The day before, Honda Motor Co. said its group profit plunged per cent to 6.09 billion yen (\$58.56 million) during the April-June quarter from a year earlier.

"We are making some changes we wouldn't have thought of five years ago, ... like cutting the number of options by 30 per cent," said Toyota spokesman

Nobuva Eto. Five years ago, during the height of the consumer frenzy of Japan's so-called "bubble eco-Toyota's Corolla came nomy," with 68 different bumper configurations. Now there are only 24 available.

Mr. Ruddick says Japan's auto giants are moving production abroad, but not quickly enough. "They aren't going to be able to do it fast enough to avoid problems over the next two years

or so." he said.

The bank report said a greater shift of production abroad can eventually help the automakers cope with changes in exchange rates and reduce trade friction, but the short-term result of the high yen is likely to be a continuation of dismal earnings figures. The rapid rise in the yen's

value has forced Japanese car makers to raise prices faster than the U.S. big three, leading to renewed competition from the U.S. auto giants. The Japanese currency closed

at 104.45 to the dollar in Tokyo Friday, after rising more than 17 per cent since mid-February. Mr. Eto said every time the dollar's value falls by one yen, his company loses 10 billion yen (\$96.15 million) in profits.

The bank report estimated that, with the shift of production overseas, domestic production will drop to 12.1 million vehicles in fiscal 1995, and 10.9 million by 2000, from 13.5 million in fiscal

Overseas production is likely to nearly double from four million vehicles in 1990 to 7.9 million in 2000, it said.

The report said the shift will make plant closings at home inevitable, and massive layoffs a very real possibility. But Japan's car makers beg to

"Nobody is going to get fired,"

Toyota's Eto said. He said all of Japan's major automakers will be able to reduce their work forces through attrition, voluntary early retirement and transfers.

Regardless of how soon the Japanese companies adjust to the change in exchange rates, though, a host of long-term problems threatens to keep earnings low into the next century, said the Expensive environmental and

safety requirements and pressure to cut exports are also growing, the report said. In addition, demand for autos

in Japan and abroad isn't increasing as explosively as it used to, requiring fundamental changes in the structure of Japan's auto industry, the report said. In a separate report Japanese

car-maker Nissan said it was considering cutting back its production in Britain in 1993 because of a fall in the continental European car market. A spokesman at the Nissan

plant in Sunderland, northern England, said the company was strongly considering a reduction in output, but no definite decision

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would be taken until October. The car maker initially planner output of 270,000 cars from its British factory. Opened in 1986, it currently produces the Primera

and Micra models, exporting 80 per cent of its production. Production reached 175,000 cars in

Though new car sales have risen in Britain since the end of 1992, they have fallen in continental Europe, forcing many manufacturers, including Ford Vauxhall and Peugeor, to cutback on production. In the first seven months of

1993, total British car production was 6.6 percent higher than in the same period of 1992, thanks mainly to the opening of new British factories by Honda and Toyota.

One week ago, Nissan said in Tokyo that the poor outlook for Japanese demand could force it to cut its production plans there for the first six months ending March 1994.

As part of the measures to cope with rising domestic production costs and the higher yen, Nissan Motor Co., Japan's second-largest automaker, has said it will start importing vehicles from Mexico.

Each month, the company will import about 3,000 ad vans assembled in Mexico, with sales in Japan scheduled to start in December, said Nissan spokes-man Koji Okuda.

Currently, Nissan sells 5,000 ad vans a month in Japan at 812,000-1,412,000 yen (\$7,850 to

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### **UAE** expanding major gas plant to meet demand

has launched a major project to expand its main onshore gas processing plant to boost income and meet growing demand, an official report has said.

The project will more than triple production capacity at Habshan plant from 540 million cubic feet (16.2 million cubic metre) per day to 1.86 billion cubic feet (55.8 million cubic metre) per day when it is completed by the end of 1995, the Abu Dhabi National

Oil Comany (ADNOC) said. ADNOC, 60 per cent owned by the Abu Dhabi government, did not mention the cost of the project but oil sources put it and around \$2 billion.

The first phase of the project, involving engineering and designs, was completed in 1992 while the second phase has just been launched. It has been awarded to Bechtel Inc. and the Paris-based Technip and includes detailed engineering and con-struction, ADNOC said in its bulletin. "The main objectives of the

project are to meet the increased gas demand, boost revenue, preserve reservoir conditon by reinjection of gas and protect the

environment," the bulletin said. The UAE is already a major oil and gas producer and its crude as well as liquefied gas is ex- and gas reserves are estimated at ported to Japan and the rest is 98 billion barrels and 186.6 tril-

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ABU DHABI (AFP) — The lion project is underway to dog-United Arab Emirates (UAE) ble output at the gas liquefaction ble output at the gas liquefaction. plant on Das island to cater for the growing needs of its Japanese

Gas supplies for Habshan plant, around 200 kilometres southwest of Abu Dhubi, come from the nearby Bab field, one of the biggest gas fields in the world. The field, which also includes billions of barrels of oil, is also being expanded, according to

Bab field has an area of around 1,200 square kilometre (465 square mile), almost 16 times that of Abu Dhabi city, and it includes 155 producing wells in its three pi and gas zones.

The Habshan project is part of a trend where the world  $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ shifting more towards the utilisation of natural gas as an alternative pollution-free fuel," said ADNOC, which is also owned tw British Petroleum, the French Total and other Western and Japanese oil companies.

The project will allow ADNOC to fulfil its long-term commitments for gas export as well as local needs. It will also give ADNOC the flexibility to deal with the international market of oil and gas."

consumed locally. Another \$1 bil- lion cubic feet.

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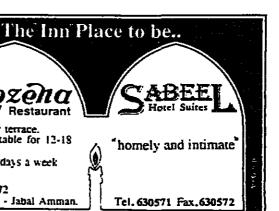
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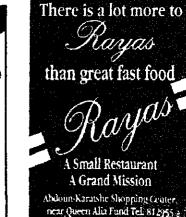
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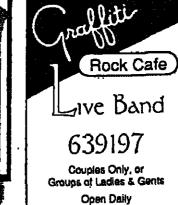


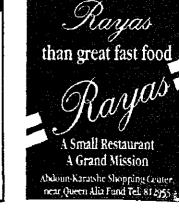


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### would be unable to repay the Zimbabwe jobless rate hits 30 per cent HARARE (R) — At least 30 per cent of Zimbabwe's workforce is annually finding jobs in the for-

mal market. nearly 12 per cent last year in the face of the worst drought and recession this century.

Mr. Mugabe noted that the "The current national unem-

country's annual population growth, estimated by economists at more than three per cent, was partly to blame for the unemployment crisis, which had been worsened recently by tough eco-nomic reforms backed by the World Bank.

More than 22,000 workers had been retrenched in both the public and private sectors since the five-year reforms were launched in 1991 to try to promote growth through exports, he said.

### Azerbaijan requests indefinite postponement of Karabakh talks

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Scheduled negotiations on the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh have been indefinitely postponed ... at Azerbaijan's request, a Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday.

An Azerbaijani government spokesman said the request had been made because of Sunday's . referendum in the republic which confirmed the ouster of fugitive Azerbaijani President Abulfaz Eichibey and the people's confidence in acting president and former Communist leader Geidar

The negotiations, held under the auspices of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), were to have begun Monday in the framework of the year-old Minsk process ... preparing for a peace conference between Azerbaijan and Arme-

Azerbaijan has in recent months suffered a series of military setbacks over the mountainous territory populated mostly by Armenians but which is part of Azerbaijan.

Armenian forces currently control the entire enclave as well as 'security zones" in southwestern Azerbaijan proper. More than 10,000 people have been killed and many more displaced in the five-year war over the territory. Fighting Sunday died down as

the Armenian fighters were efire agreement following "dispoised to reach Zangelan, in agreements within the Azerbaipoised to reach Zangelan, in southwestern Azerbaijan, which jani command." would enable the separatists to control the whole region as far as the Iranian border.

The international community has condemned the Armenian advances into Azerbaijani territory, although Moscow has maintained a low profile on the issue.

But a special envoy of Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Vladimir Kazimirov, has been trying in recent days to arrange a set of direct negotiations between Baku and the Armenian separatists

from Nagorno-Karabakh.
The Minsk group, led by Italian diplomat Mario Raffaelli, involves nine mediating countries: Belarus, the Czech Repúblic, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, Sweden, Turkey and the United

Meanwhile, the separatist lead-ership of Nagorno-Karabakh said it was ready to hold talks on the problem of refugees who have left their homes as a result of the lastest offensives.

In a statement published in the territory's main town Stepanakert, the authorities denied their troops had "made advances into the south-west region of Azerbaijan" over the past few

The statement blames. Azerbaijan troops for violating ¿ reas-

Stepanakert also denounced the "noisy (Azeri) propaganda campaign to the effect that large numbers of people are leaving the border regions of Nagorno-

The statement stressed that Armenian refugees in the northern regions of Shaumian and Mardakert represented "about 20 per cent of the population of Nagorno-Karabakh whereas the Azeri refugees only represent five per cent of the population of Āzerbaiian."

Tens of thousands of refugees have fled their homes in the regions of Fizuli, Dzhebrail and Zangelan in southwestern Azerbaijan over the past few days. Acting Azerbaijan President Geidar Aliyev is poised to call for military intervention by Russia in

the ongoing war with Armenian

separatists, Azeri nationalist groups claimed Sunday. In a joint communique received by AFP in Ankara the National Azerbaijani Centre and the Cultural Association of Azer-baijan accused Mr. Aliyev of

The acting head of state was preparing the ground for the entry of the Russian army into Azerbaijan by declaring that the Azerbaijani army has been

being "Russia's puppet."

fleeing the Armenians," the statement said.

The groups added that Mr. Aliyev wanted the country to become a member of the Commonwealth of Independent States to "allow the Russians to enter Azerbaijan."

Both groups are allied with the Azerbaijani Popular Front led by Mr. Elchibey.

The communique claimed the plebiscite was a coup attempt orchestrated by Mr. Aliyev. Meanwhile the referendum on

the political future of Azerbaijan's fugitive president marked the culmination of a long climb back to power by Mr. Aliyev. More than 90 per cent of the electorate voted Sunday and hardly anyone leaving Baku's polling stations said they had

answered anything but "no" to the single quest n: "Do you have confidence in President Abulfez Elchibev Asked how the had voted,

about two dozen p ople in different parts of the city revealed the real significance of the referendum. "I voted for Aliyev," they

Results had yet to be announced, but even supporters of Mr. Elchibey's Popular Front movement who refused to vote said they had lost faith in the stricken country's official presi-

Nigeria

heads for



CAPTURED REBELS: Five of 13 members of the Shining Path guerrilla group recently captured by the military are presented to the press. The 13 guerrillas were arrested in connection with

the Aug. 20 massacre by rebels of at least 59 Ashaninka Indians in the Mazamari of Peru (AFP

### 2,000 rebels killed in offensive — Angola

LUANDA (R) — Angolan government forces pushing towards the rebel capital Huambo in the central highlands killed more than 2,000 UNITA rebel fighters over the past week, the government newspaper Jornal De Angola said Monday.

The newspaper quoted a military source as saying the casualties were inflicted on three fronts in battles for the towns of Tchidjenje, Monte Belo, Balombo and Quilengues.

Jornal De Angola quoted its sources as saying the dead in-cluded a UNITA general, known by his nom de guerre "katu".

Government forces are advancing on Huambo along two main roads from the Atlantic coast in a major offensive. Other columns are moving into the southern fringes of the central highlands from the southern city of Luban-

Jornal De Angola quoted its

source as saying the forces advancing from the coast had been fighting for several days in Ukuma, a town less than 100 kilometres west of Huambo. which fell to UNITA in March.

UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) has been fighting a bush war against the government since independence in from Portugal 1975. A peace agreement signed in 1991 fell apart last year.
Meanwhile, aid workers said

hundreds of Angolans are dying each week in an agonising war that has failed to capture the attention of a world community focused on carnage in Bosnia and Somalia.

"The number of civilians suffering from effects of the war is just as great as in Bosnia," said James Fermell of the humanitarian organisation care, visiting villages near the central highland town of Ganda traumatised by

Thais see new offensive against rebels

"We can prevent another Somalia. If we get food in now we won't have mass starvation like in Somalia and Ethiopia." Aid workers complain that the

deaths of tens of thousands of Angolans in the 11 months since UNITA rebels took up arms again after their electoral defeat last year have been eclipsed by greater world interest in Bosnia and Somalia.

children in rags and bloated bellies showed signs of chronic and severe mainutrition. A young girl struggled to stay on her feet. Heavy artillery fire rang out from several kilometres away, a

In the villages near Ganda

reminder of more deaths to No one knows for sure how many people have died from direct or indirect effects of the

war. But many diplomats and aid Gilbert, George workers believe at least 50,000 bring pop art have perished so far.

# panache to China

PEKING (R) — Gilbert and George, the dignified dandies of Britain's art world, brought pop art panache to Peking Monday as they readied one of the first major exhibitions of modern Western art to hit China's capital. Flat Man, Headview and Tonguers, the Gilbert and George China Exhibition is being called a major leap toward bringing the world's most populous country into step with the Western art vanguard. That vanguard was inheld a news conference for a group of mystified Chinese journalists to explain Gilbert and George's work - large, sectioned canvases of young men, cityscapes, and the artists in their underwear. "Gilbert and George are living artists and sort of wanderers on this planet,"

### Remorseful art-lover apologises for stealing a statue

NICE, France (AFP) - An artloving thief stole a statue from an Beaulieu-Sur-Mer on the French Riviera and then wrote to the local council to apologise, the council said Friday. The thief, who did not sign his letter, said he had fallen in love with the Resin statue, weighing around 100 kilos, by the artist Noel Thomann from Belfort, in eastern France. "I could never afford to buy myself such beautiful things, and besides it was a case of love at first sight," the thief said, promising to look after the statue. He asked the council to tell the artist that he was "in love with his work" and thanked it for staging the exhibition, hoping that his act of vandalism" would not close down the event. The organisers said they appreciated the fine sentiments of the thief, but expected the statue to be back on

PARIS (R) - A fat French model went on the warpath. against an airline Sunday after being asked to pay two air fares to accommodate her 130 kilog-. rammes. Red-head Anne Zamberian, whose voluptuous curves are a common sight on French-billboards, described domestic ardine Air Inter's refusal to sell her a ticket for a single seat this weekend as "an attack on human dignity". Asked to pay double.
She took a train instead. Air Interdenied it was discriminating against the fat and retorted that people who are ill and musicians

### 400 feared dead in China dam disaster

PEKING (R) - More than 400 people were feared dead after a dam burst in China's remote western province of Qinghai sending torrents of water crashing down on nearby villages, officials said Monday.

Some 263 were confirmed dead after Friday's disaster and at least 180 were still missing, a local police official said by telephone. "More bodies may still be under water or in the wreckage ...it is very hard to have a final

figure now," he said. A spokesman at the regional flood prevention office said the official confirmed death toll was 223 but that it would probably rise as rescue work continued in Gonghe County, about 100 kilometres west of the provincial capital of Xining.

People are still working hard," the spokesman said. Both the army and the police have hundreds of people at the

Water breached the 60-metre Gouhou reservoir dam late Friday, unleasing torrents of water on small peasant communities downstream

At least 330 people were receiving medical treatment and

many others were believed t. have been affected, a provinc government spokesman said

The break in the dam, which officials said was about 10 years old, hit one of China's most remote areas, where a mixed population of Chinese and Tibetans struggle to coax a living from

The Gonghe area was hit by a destructive earthquake in 1990 and is believed to lie close to seismic fault lines.

"It is not exactly in the same place, but (the quake) may have had some effect," the government spokesman said.

Preliminary estimates out economic losses from the dam burst at more than 100 million yuan (\$17 million) — a serious blow for one of China's poorest regions.

The reservoir, which has a capacity of 3.3 million cubic metres (116.5 million cubic feet) of water, was holding about 2.6 million cubic metres (92 million cubic feet) when the burst occurred, the official Xinhua News

Agency said. "A big hole split open and the water rushed out, washing away

several villages," a local hospital worker quoted local television as saying Sunday.

On Monday morning the reservoir was empty, the county police

The Qinghai government spokesman said more than 1,000 homes had been flooded and 26 work units, including state factories and collective enterprises, had been hit by the dam waters. Qinghai, most of which is

formed by an arid and inhospitable plateau, is famous as one of the main locations of China's "reform through labour" prison camps, where inmates are put to hard physical work under the ever-watchful eyes of guards.

The provincial government spokesman said, however, that these camps had not been affected by the dam burst.

"They are in a different sector. They are all operating normally." he said.

Līu Jimin, a senior cabinet official, arrived in the area Sunday to cresee rescue work involving several thousand soldiers and members of China's Paramilitary People's Armed Police,

the spokesman said.

Nigeria to democracy.

election annulled by former militarv President Ibrahim Babangi-Mr. Abiola plans to return from abroad by the end of this week to form his government and

Gen. Babangida quit the army

### shutdown as strike takes hold LAGOS (R) — Nigeria ground to a

hålt Monday as an indefinite general strike called to protest the installation of an unelected government began to bite.

Transport was paralysed in the main city Lagos as a year long fuel shortage combined with the strike to force public buses off the

"I have no fuel in the bus so I cannot go anywhere," said bus driver Lateet Ovewole. His type of bus called th.

'molue" provides nearly half the public tansport service in this city of six million people. At Nigeria's main oil terminal

in Bonny in the southeast, loading was being done only in the daytime, oil industry sources said Sunday. The strike was called by the

umbrella trade union organisation Nigeria Lab. 11 Congress (NLC) and the vital oil workers group NUPENG to protest against the former military goverament's failure to fully return NUPENG said it wanted pow-

er transferred to business tycoon Moshood Abiola, the unofficial winner of last June's presidential

the new government of Ernest Shoneka has warned it would regard that as rebellion.

and the presidency Thursday and handed over to industrialist

#### Gen. Anusom said Thai troops the unified army of Cambodia's eight mortar bombs towards

BANGKOK (R) - Soldiers of der town of Aranyaprathet fired interim coalition government are poised to renew their drive. Sunday to stop a duel that had ainst Khmer Rouge guerrillas a Thai military spokesman said Monday.

"Strong military movements by the government soldiers and the Khmer Rouge guerrillas indicate that the figthing will break out soon," Lieutenant-General Anusorn Krisanaserani told a news conference.

"We have instructed the Thai, Armed Forces on the border to deal with the situation," he said. Gen. Anusorn said Thai soldiers had been instructed to warn Cambodian forces to keep the fighting on their side of the border and to retaliate with tough action if shells fell on Thailand.

Thai soldiers south of the bor-

Cambodian mortar positions on resulted in several rounds landing inside Thailand, witnesses said. Over 1,000 Khmer Rouge guerrillas and their followers fied

over the Thai border when govemment troops overran a major Khmer Rouge logistics base in northwest Banteay Meanchey province two weeks ago. About 2,000 government sol-

diers from the Khmer Peoples Liberation Front, former guerrilla allies of the Khmer Rouge, took part in the assault. Their commander, General

Khoun Rouen subsequently accused the Thai military of helping to evacuate the Khmer Rouge to nearby safe areas.

near the border had been instructed to prepare holding centres for Cambodian civilians and soldiers who might flee from fighting into Thailand. He said they would not be

turned over to Phnom Penh anthorities as had been demanded by the interim government there. Meanwhile, leaders of Cambodia's inerim government flew

Monday to meet Prince Norodom Sihanouk in North Korea to try and finalise a new constitution that could lead to the restoration of the monarchy.

Prince Sihanouk, the restored head of state and former godking, is currently staying in Pyongyang as guest of the Communist leadership there and will puruse the draft national constitution being brought to him.

### Last Russians to leave Lithuania by Tuesday

VILNIUS (Agencies) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin has promised that the last remaining 2,500 Russian soldiers still in Lithuania will have left the Baltic republic by Tuesday, the Lithuanian presi-

dent said Monday.

Speaking on Vilnius Radio, President Algirdas Brazauskas said that "tomorrow there will be a farewell ceremony" for the last remaining Russian troops. Russia, and Lithuania will sign a bilateral treaty next month,

tion for what it terms the Soviet

Mr. Brazauskas also said, giving no details.

Russia had earlier suspended its scheduled withdrawal of troops from Lithuania and broken off negotiations after Vilnius demanded financial compensamilitary occupation of the republic since 1940.

Russia recognised Lithuanian independence in 1992.

"During today's conversation with Boris Yeltsin, it was agreed that the Russian army will be withdrawn before the end of the month," Mr. Brazauskas has

### Liz Taylor: Jackson will be vindicated

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Elizabeth Taylor, flying to Michael Jackson's side, said in a television interview broadcast Monday that she believes her long-time friend will be cleared of child sex-abuse allegations against him.
"I believe totally that Michael

will be vindicated. I believe in Michael's integrity, his love and trust in children," Taylor said in an interview for the programme A Current Affair conducted on the Singapore Airlines Jumbo Jet taking the actress to Singapore, where the pop star was perform-

> Jackson has been accused of sexual abuse by a 13-year-old boy. The singer has denied molesting the boy, and police have turned up no physical evidence to support criminal charges against Jackson.

Since the story broke last week. Jackson's private detective, Anthony Pellicano, has charged that the boy's father - a Beverly Hills dentist — demanded 20 million through an attor-

ney to buy his son's silence. Taylor expressed concern about the allegations against Jack-"...Michael is one of my best

friends in the whole world and I can't think of any worse thing that a human being could go through than what he's going through now," she said. "You can imagine how he feels. How would you feel if you had these are not investigating Michael

right," Taylor said. "Michael is a very proud man and he has good faith. He's a very spiritual and a very religious man.' Jackson's private detective said

in an interview published Mon-

day that he delayed telling police about an alleged extortion attempt against the pop star for "I knew that time was on my

more discredited they are. And if I can get Michael on an airplane, he's on tour for four months and that's more time." Pensi-Cola, corporate aponsor

world tour, has hired leading detective agency Kroll Associates to investigate the singer, the Guardian newspaper reported Monday. It quoted a "senior" Pensi

source as saying Kroll had been hired while another denied this. The story did not say why Pepsi wanted Jackson investigated.

our ear close to the ground, and

monitoring this closely, but we

added that she could neither confirm nor deny the story.

Meanwhile Jackson squashed all speculation of health problems as he thrilled a capacity crowd of 50,000 screaming fans at the National Stadium here Sunday. To screams of "Michael...

Birthday, while a smiling Jackson stood motionless with his hands outstretched in a victory sign. Jackson began his concert with one of his popular 1992 hits Jam. but the moment that song was

the crowd responded in unison. The superstar, who turned 35 Sunday, bowed to his fans after they finished their serenade, saying: "My friends, my friends... thank you, thank you."

with his customary agility right up to the end.

Jackson has been warned by the youth wing of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) not to fan "the fires of violence"

when he tours South 'Africa next

In a weekend resolution, the IFP youth brigade said Jackson would "solely be responsible for the predictable consequences" if,

in Johannesburg on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. According to reports here, part of the proceeds will go towards helping the ANC contest South Africa's first free elections

be financing the "slaughter of innocent and defenceless souls," the IFP Youth Brigade resolution

"A serious warning is issued to Michael Jackson to take extreme care that he does not stalk the fires of violence in an extremely volatile political situation... by being partisan in swelling the coffers of the ANC to the total disregard of the political feelings of some of his fans," the resolution said.

IFP, a bitter rival of the ANC,

### Tajik leader takes home 5 CIS soldiers

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (R) -Five soldiers, four Russian and one Kazakh, arrived back in Tajikistan Monday after being freed from nearly three weeks of captivity in Afghanistan.

Journalists witnessed the arriv-

al of the hostages at Dushanbe Airport at Tajik leader Imamali Rakhmonov returned from three days of talks with Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani in Kabul, a reporter said by telephone from Dushanbe. The hostages were seized as

they guarded Tajikistan's border against Islamic Tajik rebels operating in northern Afghanistan. The soldiers boarded Mr. Rakhmanov's plane shortly before the Tajik parliamentary leader and acting head of state

left four Dushanbe, witnesses at

Kabul Airport said. There was no notice of the release until the plane was about to depart for the Tajik capital.

The mainly Russian CIS forces are deployed under an agreement with Dushanbe to defend the former Soviet Central Asian republic from attacks by rebels based in Afghanistan. Mr. Rakhmanov's visit, aimed at easing border tension between

the two countries, was the first to Kabul by a foreign head of state since the Mujahideen took power in April last year. Afghan authorities said Sunday that Russian forces in Tajikistan shelled Afghan border areas and scattered thousands of mines be-

fore Mr. Rakhmanov began the The official Kabul Radio said the Russian forces shelled parts of Badakhshan province and Russian jetfighters scattered about 5,000 mines there Wednesday

and Thursday. The mines destroyed several houses and crops in the area, it

### Russia says USSR not guilty in KAL tragedy

MOSCOW (R) — Russian officials said Monday the Soviet Union bore no guilt for shooting down a South Korean airliner in 1983, laying the blame instead on pilot error and a series of fateful

coincidences. Sergei Filatov, head of a state commission investigating the tragedy, said Soviet Air Defence Forces firmly believed they were intercepting an enemy spy plane when they shot down flight KAL 007 and killed all 269 people on

"It turns out that the Union bears no guilt incident." Mr. Filatov tol conference. The Korean Airlines plane was shot down by a Soviet fighter off

Russia's Far East Sakhalin Island

on Sept. 1, 1983 after straying

board.

deep into Soviet airspace on a flight from Anchorage, Alaska to Commission members said the Boeing 747 had been mistaken for a U.S. RS-135 spy plane sighted by Soviet Air Defences on the Far Eastern peninsula of

Kamchatka earlier the same day.

"The tragedy was the result of

a whole chain of mistakes and coincidences, and not deliberate, malicious intent," said Mr. Filatov, who is also President Boris Yeltsin's chief of staff. The tragedy dramatically heightened cold war tensions,

with U.S. President Ronald Reagan accusing the Soviet side of knowingly destroying a civilian plane. Moscow defended the action, saying the Boeing had been on a risky U.S. spy mission. Mr. Filatov said neither of

these positions was supported by

the commission's findings, which

resembled those of an earlier

report by the International Civil

Aviation Organisation. Rudolf Teimurazov, head of Russia's Flight Safety Commission, said KAL 007's crew had set a faulty course within three minutes of take-off from Anchorage, and failed to correct it throughout the next five hours and 20 minutes as they strayed further and further north of their make the payments to relatives.

They failed to observe correct procedure for checking and reporting their position at a series of points en route and were 350

miles off course by the time plane approached Sakhalin. To Soviet Air Defence Forces. the arrival of a second intruder in their airspace indicated that a support plane had come to refuel

the RS-135 and allow it to con-A SU-15 fighter was dispatched from Sakbalin to meet the approaching aircraft, double back and give pursuit. At this point the

The pursuing fighter flashed its lights, fired ahead of the Boeing and sent a radio message as a final warning. But the Boeing at that moment was climbing in response to a message from Tokyo ground control, and the crew probably never

final tragic error occurred, Mr.

Teimurazov said.

saw the warning shot passing beneath them. "After the fighter gave the friend or foe' interrogation signal and 007 failed to answer, the fighter received the order to attack the Boeing 747, which was thought to be an intruding RS-135 spy plane," Mr. Teimurazov

The plane, hit by a single rocket in the tail, briefly climbed and then plunged in a broad spiral for nine minutes, breaking up as it crashed into the sea.

"Missile launched. Target destroved," the Soviet fighter pilot radioed to base. Yeltsin, in a gesture of atonement to the South Korean people, denounced the downing of the plane as "the criminal act of a

criminal regime" when he visited

But the new report may

their country last year.

antagonise Seoul with its refusal to lay blame at the Soviet door. Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Shokhin said in response to a South Korean compensation claim last week that the KAI. Airline, not Moscow, should allegations against you? He's a

very sensitive, very vulnerable. very shy person.
"I know it will come out all

more than two months to buy time and discredit those making allegations against Jackson. side," Mr. Pellicano told the Washington Post. "The longer the negotiations went on, the

of Michael Jackson's current

A Pepsi spokesman in suburban New York denied the report, saying: "We are keening

A spokeswoman for Kroll said the investigative firm "never comments on our clients" and

Michael" the superstar waved to the capacity crowd, who broke out in a mass regidition of Happy

over his backing band struck up the happy birthday tune to which

Jackson showed no signs of any exhaustion throughout his 90minute performance, strutting and dancing around the stage

In South Africa, singer Michael

as reported, he used proceeds from the tour to aid the IFP's bitter rival, Nelson Mandela's African National Congress Jackson is due to hold concerts

next April 27. By doing this, Jackson would

has been blamed for much of the violence which has spiralled in black townships since the announcement that South Africa would hold non-racial elections next April.

### Japanese princess flies to Europe for 'love tryst' TOKYO (AFP) — Princess Nori

of Japan, daughter of Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, left for Europe Monday, where according to the Japanese press she was heading for a love tryst with a Japanese architecture student. Princess Nori, 24, flew to London, where she was to overnight before heading to Spain to spend about a week in an apartment owned by the Belgian royal family, and then go to Brussles as a guest of Queen Fabiola. She will meet up her parents in Europe at the end of their Sept. 3-19 European tour. According to the mass circulation weekly Shukan Bunshun, a discreet rendez vous has been fixed at a Belgian chateau on Sept. 12 with a possible fiance. He was named as Toshinaru Bojo, 31, who is studying gothic architecture in France and preparing a doctorate at the University of Tokyo. Mr. Bojo's grandfather was chamber-

#### **Longevity protein** found by Japanese researchers

lain to Emperor Meiji, who reigned from 1867-1912.

TOKYO (AFP) — Japanese researchers said Monday they have discovered a protein that belps the life span of mice and could possibly do the same for humans. Experiments showed that those mice which took the protein mixed in their water twice a week lived five to 10 per cent longer than other mice and remained energetic until immediately before their death. Akira Okano of Shunshu University, who led the research, said the protein, which was originally found in flies, also existed in six-week-old haman embryos, bees and silkworms. "I think there is a high possibility that the protein works on human beings because it was found in a certain stage of embroys and it had an effect on another manmals," Mr. Okano said.

Anders Kold, modern art curator at Denmark's Royal Museum of

# Fine Arts, told the reporters.

exhibition in the public gardens at wanted him to know that they its base by Monday or they would be going to the police.

#### French airline lives off the fat of the land

travelling with instruments were also asked to pay for two seats.

ce shouldh:

### Star of Cozzene captures Arlington

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IIInois (R) - Without his rival Lure to crowd the stage, Star of Cozzene proved worthy of top billing with an authoritative 31/-length victory in the Arlington Million Sunday.

Overnight and morning rainsturned the turl at Arlington International Racecourse soft, a disadvantage which the lure camp deemed unacceptable. The scratch ended a chance for a rubber match for the pair, who had split four races this season.

Their spirited rivalry had been compared to the classic duel be-tween Affirmed and Alydar in the 1978 triple crown.

Star of Cozzene, the heavy favourite, found himself part of an alarmingly familiar subplot throughout the first mile of the 1/4-mile race.

While saving ground on the rail the star horse of the team Valour Stable and jockey Jose Santos could not get out for a clear run. A similar scenario in the stretch at Saratoga cost the duo a win in the Bernard Baruch August 11.

### Armstrong takes world cycling title

OSLO (AFP) - America launched a new cycling star Sunday when Lance Armstrong spectacuiarly won the world professional title at his first attempt under driving rain in Oslo.

Yet Armstrong, the youngest champion ever at 21, had to be convinced he had really won after iosing track of how many laps be had completed. He broke 13km from the end of

the 252km race after two falls and finish with a 193ecc advantage over Miguel Indurain, whose world number one title may soon be disputed.

But Armstrong revealed: "I wasn't sure it was the last lap. I looked at my counter on the last descent and only then realised I was going to win, But he played down compan-

sons with compatriot veteran cycling star Greg Lemond, a three-times winner of the Tour

De France.
"We have only got one thing in common," he said. "We're both American. He won two world championships and three Tour De France, Me, I've just won one

World Championshipa."
German Olaf Ludwig was just beaten by the Tour De France and Giro D'Italia title holder in the final sprint. Johan Museeuw of Belgium was fourth and world cup leader Maurizio Fondriest of Italy was fifth.



American Lance Armstrong jubilates as he crosses the finish line to win the individual road race at the World Cycling Championships (AFP photo)

Indurain said later: "I thought of giving up around half-way. I hesitated because I felt tired.

was very surprised to see that I was the fastest. But I don't have any regrets - Armstrong won,

### Prost, Hill both have reason to celebrate GP

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (AP) — Alain Prost and Damon Hill each left the Belgian Prix with reason to celebrate. Hill won the event for his

second consecutive victory. Prost took another step toward his fourth world championship. And together, they gave Williams-Renault its second consecutive team title. If that was not enough, the win

tory, firmly establishing it as the dominant engine of the 1990s. Savouring the gargantuan success, Hill just asked "what more

also gave Renault's its 50th vic-

Team leader Frank Williams did it for him, celebrating his 70th win: "This has been a great day." In a thrilling race up to the end, Hill held off a charging Michael

had compromised victory by almost stalling on the starting grid. His comeback just fell short. Prost led for most of the race, But when a slow pit stop for new tires allowed Hill through, he

drive a controlled race, knowing even third place would bring the world title beckoning, since his closest challenger Ayrton Senna was lagging in fourth place.
"I scored one point more than

Senna, which is exactly the result I wanted to get for my cham-pionship," he said.

Prost now has 81 points in the overall standings with Senna in second place with 53. Hill closed in on the Brazilian and has 48 points, while Schumacher totals

Senna has already given up any realistic hope of catching Prost.

McEnroe, who won four U.S.

Open singles crowns and will do

television commentary at this

year's tournament, played an amusing tiebreaker with Agassi.

Alan King, acting as umpire for

chair and mimicked one of

McEnroe's infamous lines from

"You cannot be serious,"

Agassi shrieked, sounding cerily

The ploy wasn't wasted on McEnroe. He started mocking

Agassi's trademark babits, in-

cluding lifting his shirt up to

But they also remembered the

"Anyone who knew Arthur

and a tremendous respect for him," said Agassi. "He died of a

tragic disease and everybody is

supporting this event out of re-

serious purpose of the day.

Wimbledon.

like McEnroe.

reveal his chest.

spect for him."

When American comedian

### Celebrities raise funds for Ashe charity Seles greeted with standing ovation in New York

FLUSHING MEADOW, New, ing Sunday, No one outside her York (Agencies) — A day before close circle did. She decided only the arduous U.S. Open, the elite names of tennis - watched by Monica Seles in her first public appearance since her stabbing fooled around for a good cause.

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They came to play, entertain and have a few laughs as part of ial Arthur Ashe AIDS Tennis Challenge. The event was organised to raise. money to defeat AIDS, the disease which claimed the life of Ashe in

Seles stood in the shade of the strirwell and paused, as if afraid to take the next step.

Above her, the crowd. Ahead, the court. In her mind, the memories. 'Monica, there are a lot of

people up there who want to pour a lot of love on you," U.S. Open tournament director Steve Devoe

They didn't know she was com-

with omar sharsf a tannan hersch

Both vulnerable. West deals. NORTH

WEST EAST

#6 #J1083

VXQJ10952V873

0J6 0954

#864 #A52

SOUTH

0 K Q 10 8 7 3 2 • Q 10 7

ding freak hands. Throw in a pre-emptive hid to stir the pot, and strange things can happen.

Don't sak us how this hand should be hid, Certainly, no one can quibble with West's opening pre-empt and North's jump to four spades. Thereafter, we are on less cartain ground. The one clear state-

ment that can be made is we dis-

world in honouring the memory of Arthur Ashe and his founda-

She couldn't play in the exhibition for charity, and she can't defend her two straight Open could take a stand just by showing up. And so she did.

tentatively up into the brilliant sunlight, gaily dressed in a cherry-red striped blouse, a white ribbon in her dark hair, a nervous smile on her face.

of ceremonies, announced her fans rose, as Devoe had predicted, "to pour a lot of love" on

They embraced her with their applause longer and more warmly

tion for the defeat of AIDS.

Now on the stairs, she walked

And when Alan King, master

immediately to the crowd, 13,000

than they did when she won the

agree thoroughly with East's double

of six spaces. A small profit was in sight, so why roll the waters?

South realized six spades proba-bly had no chance, and chose to run to six no trump. East elected to double again, although this time on

Naturally, West led the king of hearts, and South was not enamored with dummy. If declarer won and

crossed to the ace of diamonds, there was no way back to hand to run the diamond suit—a club would allow the defenders to win and cash

as siew of heart tricks. There was just one slight chance to emerge un-scathed, and declarer went for it. South followed to the first trick with

In retrospect, there are those who might claim that, since Rest surely held an age for the two doubles, West should have shifted to a club.

Perhaps, but West thought it safe to

On the ace of hearts declarer dis-carded dummy's ace of diamonds. When the jack of diamonds dropped

on the second round, 12 tricks came rolling home, because East couldn't hold both the are of clubs and four

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spades in the end position.

ontinue with another heart.

the four of bearts!

that applause was some of the best therapy she's received. She sat beside Ashe's widow

Jeanne and daughter Camera, the two, made an unfavourable point, leaned over a railing from the president's box to exchange a kiss and hug with Jennifer Capnati.

"It's a very special day," Seles said. "I wanted to be here because I love Arthur and I want to support his foundation for the defeat of AIDS.

championships. They made her feel safe in New York.

Seles smiled, giggled, seemed

almost embarrassed. And she

looked, even in sunglasses, as if

Seles, 19, wasn't even born when Ashe won the first U.S. title of the open era in 1968. But she came to know about him and respect him, like most of the other stars at Sunday's benefit, more for his good works than his fine play.

Still, it wasn't easy to come here.

Four months have passed since she'd last entered a tennis stadium. Four months since she was wheeled out, a knife wound in her back from a deranged fan obsessed with Steffi Graf.

Now she was in a stadium again, in the stands instead of on a court. She didn't know when she'd hit a ball again, when she'd play again, and most importantly whether she'll ever be as good

But with the fans cheering her, and security guards all around, at least she looked unafraid.

New York City Mayor David Dinkins, heavweight boxing champion Riddick Bowe and former heavyweight champ Evander Holyfield were among the nontennis celebrities involved.

Tennis stars John McEnroe, Andre Agassi, Pete Sampras, Jim Courier, Michael Stich, Zina Garrison Jackson, Arantxa San-chez Vicario and Jennifer Capriati participated.

For McEnroe, who hasn't played on the circuit in 1993, the visit to stadium court brought back many memories.

"It was fun out there," said a smiling McEnroe, who lost to Agassi 7-5 in their light-hearted

# NEW YORK (AP) - At the age

of 36 and with a record 165 tournament titles, Martina Navratilova knows her place in history and in this year's U.S. Open. "I've been beyond proving anything for a long time now," the left-hander said. "This is a golden time and I'm just enjoying

She's also enjoying rewriting the record book, which changes almost every time she takes to the

this tournament, 1993's final and most successive years seeded.

been the final woman standing on she defeated Steffi Graf.

Rosset upsets Chang in Hamlet Final: In Commack, New York, unseeded Mark Rosset of Switzerland upset fifth-seeded American Michael Chang 6-4-3-6 6-1 in the final of the \$300,000 Waldbaum Hamlet Cup tennis tournament Sunday.

Rosset, the Olympic gold Svensson of Sweden in 1987.

removed in July and being sidelined six weeks. He now has won seven of his last eight matches. At six feet, seven inches (2.0) metres), Rosset produced serves of 120 miles per hour (193 kph) and used a smashing, accurate

the first and third sets. Brett Steven 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-0) Sunday for the men's cham-

Larisa Neiland defeated Natalia Medvedeva 6-3, 7-5 to win the vomen's title. All the singles finalists were

Enqvist defeated top-seeded lvan Lendi in the quarterfinals and sixth seed Carlos Costa to advance to the finals.

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### Navratilova knows her place at Open

Navratilova, is seeded third this year, a record 19th consecutive time she has been seeded in Grand Slam event. She had been tied with Jimmy Connors and Chris Evert for most years seeded When she takes the court

against Gloria Pizzehini of Italy in a first-round match, Navratilova will play in her 21st consecutive tournament, besting Virginia Wade's mark of 20. It will be her 103rd match in U.S. Open play. still 10 shy of Evert's career mark,

And while she has captured four U.S. Open titles, she hasn't the hard courts of the National Tennis Centre since 1987 when

medallist last year, won his first tournament since a victory at Marseille in February. He became the first unseeded player to win the Hamlet since Jonas Rosset was in only his second

tournament since having tonsils

forehand to overpower the fivefoot-eight (1.73 metre) Chang in Enquist outlasts Steven on day of non seeds: In Schenectady, N.Y., Thomas Enqvist used a powerful serve and baseline game to beat

pionship at the OTB Internation-

unseeded.

"It was unbelievable," Enqvist said of winning seven straight points in the tiebreaker, "I just

went for my shots." Muster on the double: In Umag, Croatia, Australian Thomas Muster justified his top seeding by winning the ATP \$400,000 tournament for the second year in

He beat Spaniard Alberto Berastegui, seeded sixth, 7-5, 3-6,

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### World Cup qualifiers

### Brazil avenge loss to Bolivia; Uruguay keep slim hopes alive

BRAZIL AVENGED its only loss in World Cup qualifying by humiliating Bolivia 6-0 before a sold-out growd of 75,000 on Sunday, and Colombia put itself in position to earn its second straight World Cup qualifying berth with a 4-0 victory over

Rai, Muller and Bebeto all scored in an 11minute span in the first half to spark the rout by Brazil, which wanted revenge for a 2-0 loss to Bohvia July 25 in La Paz, "We just gave Bolivia the answer to La Paz,"

Brazilian manager Carlos Alberto Parreira said,
The variory in Recife, Brazil, also starkly improved Brazil's chances to qualify for the 1994
World Cup, moving it to 3-2-1 and eight points in South American Group B. It is two points behind Bolivia :5-3-11 and two ahead of Uruguay (2-2-1). Two teams will qualify from Group B. Both Bolivia and Staze! have two games remaining while Uruguay has three.

Colombia's victory gave it sole possession of first place in Group A, from which only one team will automatically qualify, with one game remaining. Because Argentina drew 0-0 with Paraguay at Buenes Aires Sunday, Colombia needs only to draw with Argentina next Sunday in Buenos Aires

to get its tracets for the United States.
Colombia (3-2-0) has eight points, one more than Argentina and three more than Paraguay. The runner-up from Group A will have to win a

two-leg series with Australia to earn qualification. Elsewhere Sunday, Uruguay kept its hopes alive in Group B with a 440 victory over Venezuela.

Rai gave Brazil the lead in the 13th minute,

kicking the bull out of the goalkeeper's arms after Bebeto had put the initial shot on goal. Muller added another in the 19th, knocking a header just off the underside of the crossbar, with a light run that began to fall in the 20th minute. Bebeto the set the rout in motion in the 24th,

Branco added one of his own in the 36th off a corner kick and Ricardo Gomes sent Brazil into the locker room at halftime with a 5-0 lead with a goal in the 44th. Bebeto then added his second in the 57th.

Colombia 4, Pera 0
At Barranquilla, Colombia, after being kept away from the net for all but one shot in the first 15 minutes, Ivan Rene Valenciano and Freddy Rincon scored two minutes apart to give Colombia a 2-0 load by the 41st minute and delight the crowd of 50,000 at Barranquilla's Metropolitano Sta-

Valenciano gave Colombia the lead, taking a pass from Faustino Asprilla and shooting between the legs of Peruvian goalkeeper Miguel Miranda. Rincon best Miranda to the right to double the lead and Alexis Mondoza squashed any Peruvian

hopes in the 65th minute.
Wilson Perez completed the scoring 10 minutes

Argentina 0, Paraguay 0

At Buenos Aires, Argentina, Paraguay dominated througout most of the first half, while the Argentines moved forward in the second half but were unable to score before 50,000 fans at River Plate Stadium.

Gabriel Gonzalez had Paraguay's best chances in the second and ninth minutes, and Alfredo Mendoza had another in the 20th minute, but were deftly turned aside by goalkeeper Sergio

Argentina, seemingly confused and indecisive, ments 20-2 in qualifying.

"Bruzi Schools played the soccer noble of a three-time wind champion," said Pele, a sports commentator for TV Globo.

Urugusy 4, Venezuela 0
At Montevideo, Uruguay, Fernando Kanapkis scored on headers in the seventh and 30 minutes to kept alive Uruguay's hopes. Uruguay still must face Ecuador at Guayaquil next Sunday. Bolivia Sept. 12 at Montevideo and Brazil Sept. 19 in Rio

Gabriel Cedres scored on another header five minutes before halftime and Ruben Sosa comscoring the first of two by taking a pass from pleted the scoring before 35,000 in Centenario Branco and chipping a ball into into the upper right Stadium on a blistering shot from outside the penalty area in the 64th.

### Platt, Gullit strike ... and strike

PARIS (AFP) — High-profile rejects Rund Gullit and David Platt couldn't stop striking on the opening day of the Italian football league. First they joined the rest of

Italy's soccer stars in a lightning pay strike which delayed matches for half-an-hour after a dispute with the Italian federation over cash payments. And when their debut match finally got underway Gullit, who

left AC Milan last season, and Platt, surplus to requirements at around 500 of Paris Saint Ger-Juventus, both reverted to more main's notorious skinhead fans traditional goal strikes in their 2-1 win at Naples. England skipper Platt opened

the scoring in the 31st minute, squeezing in a far-post header from Gullit's deep cross after he had jinked to the byline. Then Dutch international Gul-

lit, set up by Roberto Mancini, blasted in a shot from the edge of the area in the 43rd which the goalkeeper could only half parry. There were successes for both Milan clubs against newly-promoted sides, champions AC Milan coming away from Lecce with a 1-0 win, courtesy of a strike by Cro2t Zvonimir Boban after 54 minutes, and inter beat-

ing Reggiana 2-1.

Their scorers were Dutchman Wim Jonk, the former Ajax star, in the 15th minute, with Salvatore to upset the Paris home side, who Schillaci adding the winner in the

Atalanta, boistered by French international Franck Sauzee signed from Marseille, put five goals past Cagliari in a 5-2 thrashing but England's Paul Gascoigne was anonymous in Lazio's 0-0 draw with Foggia.

There was striking of a diffe-

ambushed and attacked police. Ten policemen were hurt one suffered a fractured skull --

won 2-0 through goals from Daniel Bravo and French international David Ginola. Monaco defender Gilles Grimandi failed to set much of a

But the shambles did not seem

better example during the 0-0 draw against Marseille, flooring German international Rudi Voeller with a right book after the German, who had just had a goal rent nature in France, where disallowed, pulled Grimandi's

The referee, only yards away, missed the whole incident. Measwhile newly-promted Cannes stayed top despite being before teargas was fired into the held 1-1 by Sochaux.

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# Bosnia talks resume amid differences GENEVA (Agencies) — Bos- vic told Sarajevo Radio Monday Belgrade-based Tanjug news Musliam official Alija Alikadic

nia's Muslim president said he felt like a thirsty man sent into the desert for water as he headed Monday for peace talks deadlocked over a plan to divide Bosnia into three ethnic states.

But U.N. official warned Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic against seeking radical changes in the package proposed Aug. 20 by international mediators, saying any additional demands could wreck the whole agreement.

Mediators Lord Owen of the European Community (EC) and Thorvald Stoltenberg of the Un-ited Nations set Monday as the deadline for accepting their compromise proposal.

The talks between Muslim, Serb and Croat leaders, however, were postponed for a day beause Mr. Izetbegovic was unable to arrive in time from the besieged Bosnian capital of Sarajevo.

The proposed agreement gives the Muslim-led government 31 per cent of Bosnia. The Serbs would get 52 per cent, down from the 70 per cent of Bosnia they now control, and Croats 17 per

The Muslim-led government, which currently controls 10 per cent of Bosnia after losing the war, rejected the package over the weekend, demanding more land as well as U.S. and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) participation in any peace settlement.

Mr. Izetbegovic said he was going to Geneva to seek injustice for his people, who made up 43 per cent of the pre-war popula-tion.

"I feel like a thirsty man who somebody is sending to a desert to look for water." Mr. Izetbegobefore leaving for Geneva,

"Our people need peace, and the proposals being offered are worse than war," he said. "There is little justice, and the law of force is ruling the world."

But the United Nations official, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity, said Mr. Izetbegovic should not expect radical changes of the plan since it already meets four of five "concessions" demanded by Muslims during a previous round of talks.

"Those concessions and the whole package are not going to stay on the table indefinitely." the official said. He said the only Muslim demand not included in the plan was that they have a territorial link — instead of just a road - between their state and the eastern enclaves of Zepa and Srebrenica.

"Everyone who returns tomorrow is fully aware of the dangers associated with opening up the package," said the official in an apparent reference to the Mus-

"The next days will determine hether the peace is given a the U.N. peacekeepers offered chance, or whether there is a continued and intensified conflict," he said.

The Bosnian Serbs have agreed to the plan and Croats said they would seek some smaller changes and as long as the U.N. are here we are saie." to the proposed borders. Both the Serbs and Croats have Pobrica, 59, who wept as she said warned the Muslims they will not her son, grandson and grandreceive any more land and that daughter had all been killed durthey may lose everything if the ing the siege of Mostar. war continues. "I just can't take it any more.

"Muslims are risking to lose even the 10 per cent of land they now hold if they don't sign the compromise plan," Bosnia's Serb leader Radovan Karadzic told the of doing that."

agency.
"If they don't sign, we and Croats could divide Bosnia in two," Mr. Karadzic warned. The Muslims say the current plan rewards Serb aggression and

the expulsion of Muslims by occupying forces. They said the government would seek more territory in eastern Bosnia where the Serbs have committed worst atrocities.

Those attending the talks include Mr. Izetbegovic, Mr. Karadzic, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, and Bos-

nian Croat leader Mate Boban. The 17-month old Bosnian war has left 200,000 people dead or missing, and forced more than two million people to flee their

In Mostar, talks were continuing between United Nations officials and both Muslim and Croat authorities to free 52 Spanish U.N. troops being held hostage in the besieged Muslim sec-

tor by women and children. the only security from Croat guns that have pounded the quarter forweeks, Sana Hamzai, 30, told Reuters: "Our life is in danger,

Her view was echoed by Plema

There's nothing left except to try to save our own lives, and we see keeping UNPROFOR (U.N. Protection Force) here as a way

said the intensity of Croat attacks had dropped since the arrival of the U.N. troops last Thursday at the head of a convoy of food and medicine.

"Since the U.N. has been here only one civilian has been killed," he said. "If they had not been here 10 people would have been killed in the same period."

"People who used to hide in their homes now feel secure enough to come out in the street and talk with their neighbours," he added.

Mr. Alikadic called for the U.N. Security Council to declare Mostar a U.N. "safe area," as it has done to a handful of besieged Muslim enclaves in Serbcontrolled eastern Bosnia.

One of the U.N. soldiers, Ivan Castillanos, said he would welcome such a development.

"We would rather be patrolling the streets than sitting doing nothing, but our role here has to change for us to be able to do that," he said.

The soldiers said they were being well treated and morale was high, but some complained of frustration and boredom. In Sarajevo, concern focused

on aid supplies. Officials are worried a drop in convoys and fewer aid flights into Sarajevo could mean the city's 380,000 residents may not get enough supplies of plastic sheeting, blankets and fuel in time for winter, when temperatures can plunge to minus 15 degrees Cen-

tigrade (five degrees Fahrenheit).
"I don't think yet we're at the crisis stage," Peter Janseen, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), told reporters.

17 given

sentences

in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Special courts in the Algerian capital and in

Oran, west of here, have conde-

mned 17 people to death for

terrorism and subversion, judicial

The sentences were handed

The Algerian government has

pledged to step up its fight against

Islamic militants of the banned

Islamic Salvation Front (FIS)

assassination earlier this month of

former Prime Minister Kasdi

The fundamentalists have

waged a violent campaign against

the authorities since the govern-ment scrapped elections that the

FIS was poised to win in January

New Premier Rehda Malek

down at the weekend and four of

the 17 were condemned in absen-

officials said here.

death

# damaged by U.S. troops during an overnight raid (AFP photo) A man stands at the front gate of the French Action

Internationale Contre le Fain (International Action Against Hunger) in Mogadishu Monday after it was

### U.S. troops arrest aid workers in bungled raid in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU (Agencies) -Elite U.S. troops stormed two Mogadishu aid compounds and detained foreign U.N. staff early on Monday in a bungled attempt to hit back at fugitive warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed.

Crack American Rangers snaked down ropes after U.S. attack helicopters swooped low over buildings belonging to the United Nations Development Project (UNDP) and the French humanitarian organisation Action International Contre la Faim

(AICF). The black-bereted Rangers, supported by members of a U.S. rapid reaction force, broke down walls with grenades, kicked in doors and destroyed radio equipment before seizing three foreign aid workers and six Somali U.N.

guards. All were released as soon as it became clear that they were part of the U.N. operation to rebuild Somalia and not supporters of General Aideed, the man the U.N. blames for wrecking peace

The workers were UNDP ned up, ordered to lie on the floor and detained during what U.N. militarv spokesman Major David Stockwell said was a "cordon and search operation.

The Rangers also damaged the front gate and demolished part of the compound wall surrounding the office and residence of the AICF, which neighbours the UNDP.

AICF employees were also ordered to lie down with hands tied to their back as the soldiers searched.

Christian Captier, director of the charity's operations in the

from the United Nations "knew where we were, our building is well-known." This was the second time AICF

Somali capital, said he would

demand an "official explanation"

has been victim to U.N. troops' military action. On June 17 one Somali was killed and another injured when the AICF compound was hit by a missile fired by a U.S. Cobra helicopter in an operation against Aideed positions.

Gen. Aideed is wanted by the U.N. for allegedly ordering his militiamen to attack troops, including the killing of 24 Pakistani soldiers here on June 5.

It was the biggest military op-eration in the Somali capital for several weeks and the first since the arrival last week of a 400strong contingent of a crack U.S. army Ranger unit sent in to track down Gen. Aideed and end violence snarling U.N. aid work.

Mogadishu was described as "quiet and calm" after the raid in which no Somalis were beleived to have been killed.

But the blunder appeared set to increase tensions between the humanitarian and military wings of the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) which has been plagued by problems since command was passed from Washington to the U.N. last April.

Pentagon spokesman Joe Gradisher declined to say whether the troops were searching for Gen. Aideed or his top commanders.

Aid work in the ruined capital has ground to a virtual halt since U.N. forces started trying to

arrest Sen. Aideed.

the raid which they said would destroy even more of what little credibility the U.S.-led military operation still has in the ruined

"It's just another nail in the coffin for the U.N. military forces, and I believe they have really crossed the line here. It's another blunder — these troops have come here with no experience in Somalia," said Jamie McKindrick of the British charity Save the Children Fund.

Mr. McKindrick said the U.N. was being conciliatory and had described the raid as a "screw up" on armed forces band radio.

The three foreigners detained

Larry Dubois, Tony Millet,
Maurice O'Donnell — were released almsot immediately. Mr. O'Donnell, an Irishman, is the UNDP's communicatioans offic-U.N. Spokesman Stockwell,

confirming the "cordon and search" operation took place in Gen. Aideed's stronghold of south Mogadishu, said the detainees had been staying in an unauthorised residence.

They went in to search these two buildings and these people just happened to be in the wrong

place," he told reporters.

Maj. Stockwell said 50 troops
and 12 attack helicopters took part in the operation which began at around at 3 a.m. local time (2400 GMT) and lasted about two-and-a-half hours.

Mr. McKindrick said the raid showed a total lack of militar intelligence.

"They completely ignored the large blue U.N. flag on top of the rrest Sen. Aideed. building, but then later confis-Aid workers reacted angrily to cated it," he said.

### talks begin today lraq-U

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) - Iraqi officials Tuesday begin high-level talks here on weapons monitoring and other issues they hope will lead to the lifting of a crippling, three-year oil embargo. Officials of the U.N. Special

Commission on weapons monitoring said talks would begin Tuesday at 3 p.m. (1900 GMT). The 14-member Iraqi delegation is led by General Amer Mohammad Rashid, director of the Military Industrialisation Corporation. The team also includes Hossam Mohammad Amin, liaison with the commissien, and Abdul Halimi Al Hajjaj

missica. The U.N. side is headed by Rolf Ekeus, a Swedish disarmament expert who is chairman of the special commission.

of the Iraqi Atomic Energy Com-

Gen. Rashid and Mr. Ekeus were to hold a preliminary session Monday afternoon, Iraqi sources said.

Trade and oil embargoes were imposed on Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. The Security Council maintained the sanctions after the Gulf war ended to compel Iraq to meet condi-

tions of the ceasefire. Under the ceasefire terms, Iraq is prohibited from acquiring or developing nuclear, chemical, biological and ballistic weapons that have a range greater than 150

By Mariam M. Shahin

Jordan Times Saff Reporter

AMMAN - Two leftist Palestine

Liberation Organisation (PLO)

factions Monday claimed that two

large money transfers from PLO

accounts had been made to an

unidentified bank in Cairo and

were awaiting transfer orders to

banks in either Israel or the occu-

pied territories in preparation of

a possible Israeli withdrawal from

the Gaza Strip and the West

of some \$800 million from four

branches of the Palestinian own-

ed Arab Bank were made to

Cairo-based banks by Yasser

Arafat," claimed a Democratic

Front for the Liberation of Pales-

tine (Hawatmeh wing) spokes-man from Damascus Monday.

Arab Bank officials declined

In addition to the purported

transfers from Arab Bank bran-

ches in London, Cyprus, Beirut

and Amman, a transfer of the

equivalent of \$2 billion was made

from a Bahrain-based bank to

Cairo-based banks, according to

both DFLP and Popular Front for

the Liberation of Palestine

sources that the equivalent of \$2

billion was transferred from a

PLO account in a Bahrain-based

bank to Cairo," said an Amman-

based spokesman for the PFLP.

confirm the transfers had taken

place, the two opposition groups

which are based in Damascus

claim that the transfers were

Yasser Arafat, they claim, had

made in the last 10 days.

- said.

While no PLO official would

"We know from very informed

(PFLP) officials in Amman.

"A combined money transfer

Bank town of Jericho.

comment.

**DFLP** and **PFLP** say

Arafat manipulated funds

only recently accepted.

The talks are expected to focus primarily on long-term monitoring of Iraq's nuclear and ballistic weapons industries and on activating television cameras at two missile test sites.

In an interim compromise to avert a U.S. attack, Iraq agreed to the placement of cameras at the test sites. But they will not be activated unless the talks in New York resolve various issues on long-term monitoring.

Iraq also is expected to be asked for a complete list of foreign suppliers of its various weapons programmes.

But Iraq's major objective will be to persuade the commission to certify to the Security Council that Baghdad has met key weapons-related provisions of the ceasefire resolution.

Once the council agrees, the prohibitions against the import of products from Iraq and other financial transactions would be

The United States and Britain. however, want to link lifting of the oil embargo to fulfillment of other ceasefire terms and resolutions. They include the return of Gulf war detainees and better treatment of Kurds and Shiites

within Iraq (see page 2). Iraq has complied with the majority of weapons provisions kilometres. It also must cooper- and Baghdad argues it is time to ate in future monitoring, which it permit Iraq to sell oil, its major

(PNF) and created the impression

that the Palestinian revolution

was bankrupt when he gradually

stopped payments to martyrs'

funds and Palestinian institutions

and wanted to keep the money

for the government he wants to

create in Palestine," said the

DFLP official from Damascus ab-

out the PLO chairman. The PNF

has not provided a financial state-

ment to the PLO Executive Com-

mittee since September 1991,

according to several Executive

opposed to Mr. Arafat and his

current policies, the PLO chair-

man tried to give the impression

of bankruptcy to depress the

"Palestinian people into a state of

mind where they would accept

anything — even a Gaza-Jericho

himself from the financial obliga-

tions the PLO had to Palestinians

in the diaspora when be sus-

pended salary payments to staff

in PLO offices around world ear-

lier this year and cut back on

funds to families of martyrs and

disabled PLO fighters in Lebanon

and Syria, the opposition factions

According to the opposition

groups, Mr. Arafat was enticed to

accept the Gaza-Jericho first plan

by U.S. promises, made through

the Egyptian government, of

financial and economic aid to the

tune of \$700 million from West-

ern Europe, North America and

Japan to help build up infrastruc-

tures in Gaza and Jericho. "They

also promised to make sure that

the Gulf Arabs reinstitute their

payments to him," said the DFLP

The PLO chairman disengaged

autonomy deal."

said.

According to the leftist groups

Committee members in Tunis.

"He knew he was going back

and funds in the diaspora.

foreign exchange earner. Western diplomats, however. say the Security Council is not

likely in the near future to lift the oil sanctions. Iraq said Monday foreign companies were ready to buy its oil once the sanctions were eased or

"The (oil) ministry has re-ceived a great number of offers in the past months from foreign companies willing to purchase its oil." Oil Minister Usama Al Hiti told the government newspaper

Al Jumhouriyah in an interview. Mr. Hiti did not disclose the names of the companies but said Iraq would astonish the world

once it was back in the market. "Iraq will surprise the world of what it has achieved in the field of oil production and manufactur-Mr. Hiti said. He did not

elaborate. He said Iraq was ready to export "with various exporting capabilities once the suitable conditions are available."

Technical and engineering teams had completed prepara-tions to export oil abroad through different outlets, the minister

Iraq says its pipeline through Turkey, carrying 1.6 million barrels a day was almost ready. It also said it had repaired its Mina Al Bakr terminal capable of handling another 1.6 million bar-

(Continued from page 1)

institutions in the occupied terri-

Abdul Aziz Rantisi, speaking

in a telephone interview from the

Lebanese border where he was

exiled with other Hamas activists

last Decmeber, said Muslims

around the world would reject

any agreement that recognises

vent the Islamic generation now

or in the future from fighting to

restore its rights in Haifa, Acre,

Four Palestinian groups called

at a Beirut news conference for a

one-day general strike in all

Palestinian refugee camps in

Lebanon on Tuesday and deman-

ded the Jericho-Gaza plan be

discussed by the Palestine

Settlers vow war

(Continued from page 1)

was Likud Prime Minister

Menachem Begin who blazed the

peace trail with a treaty with

Egypt in 1979.
"I hope his successors will fol-

low his example. We have to find

the greatest common denomina-

As he spoke police used water

cannon to battle settlers protest-

ing outside Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin's office Monday as he

put the accord for Palestinian

More than 2,000 settlers chant-

ing "traitor, traitor" to Rabin

turned out from the occupied

territories. Several people were

injured and dozens dragged away

and arrested as fighting crupted.

correspondents said. Some 400

police and border guards pro-

tected the building.

tor between the parties."

autonomy to his cabinet.

Lydda, Jaffa, and Jerusalem,

"This agreement will not pre-

tories," he added.

the Jewish state.

Dr. Rantisi said.

National Council.

#### meanwhile continued consultations on forming his government.

Mr. Malek still had not named his cabinet nine days after the military-backed High State council sacked his predecessor, Belaid Abdul Salam, who had made overtures to moderate fundamentalists and failed to revive the stagnant, centralised eco-Jibril threatens

A former foreign minister who rules out reconciliation with Islamic "terrorists," Mr. Malek is ensuring his team shares his views. The key interior and economy posts have apparently not been filled.

Noureddine Zerhouni, a former chief of the dreaded political police and Algeria's current ambassador to the United States, is reportedly in the running for the interior job, which controls police and is on the front line against armed Islamic groups.

Mourach Benachenhou, former executive director of the World Bank, and Abdul Rahman Rostoumi Hadj Nacer, Algeria's former Central bank president, are top candidates for the economics post.

The government will not have a term limit and could survive the High State Council, which is to serve until the end of the year and be replaced by a three-man pres-Police meanwhile reproted that

three Islamic extremists wanted for murder and bomb-making were killed by security forces Saturday in Mostaganem, western Algeria. The same day, a policeman was

gunned down outside his home in an Algiers suburb. Police reported Saturday that

four Islamic gunmen were rooted out and killed in Algiers' old Casbah quarter last week. Arms used in the murders of police Officers were seized. Gunmen killed a soldier and a

police officer outside their homes

in separate attacks Thursday and

Friday in Al Harrach, a fun-

damentalist hotbed in the capital. No arrests were made. The deaths brought the number of alleged Islamic gunmen killed since Aug. 1 to 50, while 23 police officers and soldiers and 41 civilians have died.

to continue armed resistance

Hamas assails Arafat, pledges

"Irrespective of what the PLO or the peace negotiators "Jerusalem will be forgot-

Mr. Nazzal said carving Jericho out of the West Bank

"This so-called Gaza-Jericho

Mr. Nazzal in an interview with the Jordan Times.

will never agree to endorse it. We shall continue to wage an armed struggle against the

Zionist enemy," he said. Mr. Nazzal said his organisation was conviced that the plan was "the final solution" and not part of a transitional stage that would witness a more expanded Israeli withdrawal

from Palestinian lands. This is it. There will be nothing more," he said matter of factly. "Mr. Arafat always wanted to be president of something. Now he will be president of Jericho."

ten," he added. Mr. Nazzal dismissed claims that the package deal accord which is still in the making between the PLO and Israel will transfer some authority immediately in the rest of the West Bank.

Mr. Nazzal expressed fears

nian police or border patrols.

"that do not in any way endorse the settlement" place in Gaza or Jericho Hamas would field candi-

ment," he added.

Hamas has its mot numerous followers in the Gaza Strip, a densely-populated stricken region of almost 350 square kilometres. It is widely believed to be more popular than all the PLO member parties

combined. Mr. Nazzal confirmed that some 200 of the almost 400 Hamas expellees in South Lebanon will be returning to the West Bank and Gaza as a result of an Israeli offer made to the expellees. "We support whatever decision the expellees make, 200 of them will be returning by Sept. 15.

#### "We cannot sanction a plan will fight each other and not AMMAN — The Islamic Rethat divides our land and our the real enemy." sistance Movement (Hamas) Mr. Nazzal said certain polipeople. There is no popular said Monday that it would conconsensus on this plan and we tical and military tactics may tinue to wage armed struggle be reconsidered by his orga-

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

against the state of Israel as long as it did not withdraw from all occupied Palestinian lands regardless of what the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or peace negotiators said, did or signed.

do or what agreements they sign we will continue to view Israel as an enemy of our people and refuse to accept their deals of autonomy and self-rule. Anything short of an independent state is unacceptable," said an Amman-based Hamas spokesman, Mohammad Nazzal.

and isolating Gaza with no corridor to the West Bank was dividing the Palestinian people and could spark a civil war.

first plan could spark a civil war in the occupied territories and we don't want this," said that Palestinian resistance fighters in the occupied territories would clash with Palesti"I dread the thought that we

nisation. He said that if elections

"We will participate in free elections, unless of course they condone any sort of settle-

# Cairo reports murder plot

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt is holding 19 alleged Muslim extremists on suspicion of plotting to assassinate President Hosni Mubarak and will put them on trial soon, the military said Mon-

day. The defendants reportedly include two officers, one believed to work with a non-uniformed presidential security force. It was not clear whether the second officer was in the army or police.

Security sources said the group is led by Mohammad Ahmad Hammouda, a teacher who was jailed in 1981 in connection with the militant Al Jihad (holy struggle) group, which was responsible for the assassination of former President Anwar Sadat.

It also was unclear if the purported plot was related to Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, an Egyptian cleric under indictment in the United States. One U.S. charge against Sheikh Abdul Rahman is that he asked an informant to assassinate Mr. Mubarak.

A military official speaking on condition of anonymity said the 19 suspects have been detained for almost three months during a secret investigation. A blueprint in their possession of Mr. Mubarak's home and surrounding buildings prompted the investigation, the official said.

First word of the alleged plot came Monday in a weekly opposition newspaper, Al Arabi, which said the defendants planned to

use rocket-propelled grenades in an attack on the president. Al Arabi, organ of the New Socialist Nasserist Party, said the suspects were indicted on charges of trying to overthrow the gov-

The military official told the Associated Press he did not know whether the secret indictment charged the men with attempting to assassinate Mr. Mubarak.

ernment.

Holding indictments secret is a new tactic of military courts hearing Muslim extremist cases since late last year. Charges against eight defendants who allegedly attacked an army general on July 18 were revealed only Sunday when the indictment against them was read into the record.

### Clinton ends vacation 'refreshed, renewed'

MARTHA'S VINEYARD, Massachusetts (R) — President Bill Clinton said goodbye to the island of Martha's Vinevard at the end of an 11-day sojourn that appeared to have rejuvenated his spirits ahead of a tough autumn agenda. "My family never needed a vacation more and it's hard to imagine how this one could have been better." Mr. Clinton told hundreds of people who turned out to see him off at Martha's Vineyard airport. Mr. Clinton described himself as very much refreshed, renewed and ready to go back to work for the American people," mentioning specifically the issue of health care reform, which will be his next major item of business. Recommendations on the health package, a vast and long-awaited project overseen by his wife Hillary Rodham Clinton, will be unveiled on Sept. 22. Mrs. Clinton told the crowd that she and her husband and daughter Cheisea. 13, were taking home mementoes of their good times on the island for future occasions "when times get hard in Washington.

#### Commoner spoils tabloids' hopes of royal romance

OSLO (AP) — A windsurfing a

commoner drove his tiny Fiatthrough a line of Royal limousines, claiming a seat at the king's banquet and a place in his princess' heart. The move crushed British tabloids' hopes for a royal romance this weckend. Fourteen unattached princes and princesses are attending a five-day celebration that marks Norwegian King Harald V and Queen Sonja's 25th wedding anniversary Sunday. With that many young and single nobles around, news media across Europe has launched into a feeding frenzy speculating on royal matches. But Per Gunnar Haugen, a 23-year-old windsurfer, was not in their game plan. A surprise guest Saturday at the king's dinner and ball at the Oslo Palace. Haugen accompanied his long-time girlfriend, Norway's Princess Martha Louise. British news media had hoped to pair up the pretty 21-year-old princess vith other toyal guests, such as their own Prince Edward, or Denmark's Prince Joachim, or the exiled Prince Nicholas of Greeo ? 'With Haugen's presence at the palace, all the foreign speculation that this weekend's silver anniversary could end in a roval romance for Martha Louise should be put to rest," the Oslo newspaper Verdens Gang declared Sunday. Oh well, there's always other royals.

### China enlists Deng in anti-corruption

PEKING (R) — China cited the teachings of leader Deng Xiaoping Monday to support its new anti-corruption campaign, saying he believed the drive against official graft was vital to preserving Chinese socialism. The People Daily, in a front-page commentary, said Mr. Deng's remarks over the years "can unify the thinking of the whole party and guide the long-term anti-corruption battle." Mr. Deng said that opposing corruption was vital "to avoid the party and the nation 'changing colour'," meaning losing its socialist bearings and converting to capitalism. Over the past decade, Mr. Deng bas always kept an eye on that matter and issued a series of instructions." the People's Daily said. Mr. Deng reportedly stressed the anti-corruption fight during his 1992 trip to southern China which launched the country's latest economic surge.

#### Foreigners to reenact Mao's swims

HONG KONG (AFP) - Foreigners for the first time have been invited to reenact Mao Zedong's swims across the Yangtze River. to help mark the former Chinese leader's birth centenary, a report said Monday. Foreigners from more than 10 countries and regions have been invited to swim across the fast-flowing and muddy Yangtze in Wuhan City in central China between Sept. 1 to 4, the China-run Ta Kung Pao daily said. The event is part of the celebrations to mark Mao's birth on Dec. 26. 1893. The occasion has been held for the past 26 years to mark Mao's much publicised swims before his death in 1976, it said. The daily said those invited from countries and terries tories including Russia, Uruguay Belgium, Hong Kong and Macau will join 2,000 Chinese swimmers to cross China's longest river as Mao did 17 times.

#### kept the money out of the hands of the Palestine National Fund further and further north of their make the payments to the houses and crops in the are